



SOUTH NEWNHAM
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

South Newnham Neighbourhood Plan

Evidence Base for Development Policies



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1.0 POLICY SECTION 1 – PROTECTING AND ENHANCING BIODIVERSITY IN OUR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK, MAP 2

1.1 Introduction.

Originally, South Newnham was a small village, separated from the city by the river. It is still surrounded on three sides by open spaces. Although there is a busy road running through it and much of the housing is densely packed, less than 25% of the area of South Newnham is covered by houses and paving. The rest consists of private gardens and of open spaces, the majority of which have public access. There are three nature reserves.

Only 20% of the 5.6 km border adjoins another built-up area. On the east, it is bounded by the River Cam, with Snob's Brook and the Rush Stream providing additional water courses here. On the south, west and part of the north, it is surrounded by open fields. The remainder of the north border is made up of university buildings and houses with large gardens.

Gault clay/mudstone underlies the whole of Newnham, but only reaches the surface in the SW, where at one time it was extracted for brick making. Elsewhere it is covered by alluvial and river terrace deposits of sand and gravel. Bolton's Pit lake began life as a brickworks, extracting clay for brick making.

Comparison with the 1886 map shows that many of the field boundaries in Newnham still exist in their original sites, as do those around Lammas Land flood meadows, the marshy woodland of Paradise and Paradise Island and the Skaters Meadows. Some of the hedgerows here undoubtedly date back many centuries. In the more densely populated parts, back alleys are places where little has changed for 100 years.

The range of natural habitats includes flood meadows and fen, woods and hedgerows, river and riverbank, streams, lake, back lanes and private gardens, allotments, playing fields and parkland. The River Cam forms the eastern boundary of the area and the adjoining fields are flood meadows, periodically inundated after periods of heavy rain. Paradise and Paradise Island are in this damp area and they form a substantial marshy woodland in Newnham. The privately-owned Paradise Island consists mainly of tall trees, which host a **Heronry** (12 nests in 2019) and a large winter mixed flock of **Rooks** and **Jackdaws**. The two Skaters Meadows are wet 'unimproved' (i.e. unspoilt) grassland, also liable to flooding. Sheep's Green, Coe Fen and the New Bit have three main habitats: Pollard Willows, grassland and waterways. In addition, there are limited areas of scrub and woodland.

1.2 The “Green Corridor”

The Green Corridor is the area along the river Cam from the City Centre, through Coe Fen and Sheep’s Green (GC1), Lammas Land (GC2), Paradise Nature Reserve and Paradise Island (GC3), Skaters Meadows (GC4) and into the Grantchester Meadows (GC5).



This corridor is the transition from town to countryside, retaining much of its original wildness, hosting three Nature Reserves and providing continuity for wildlife access. **Otters, Water Voles, Grass Snakes, Fish, Bats** and many species of **Birds**, including **Owls**, find protection here.

1.2.1 Sheep’s Green, Snob’s Brooke (Mill Leaf) and the Rush

Sheep’s Green lies opposite Lammas Land, between Snob’s Brook and the west bank of the River Cam. Classed as a **Local Nature Reserve (LNR)**, the fen is managed to encourage an increase in natural diversity and is intended to remain as a water meadow habitat with periodic flooding. For six months of the year, April to October, it is grazed by cattle. There is an outdoor learner swimming pool which is open to the public in the summer months and a canoe club

building here. Patterns of the ancient meandering streams can still be seen on Sheep's Green during wet periods. This riparian site is a perfect habitat for **Hérons, Kingfishers** and even **Little Egrets**. The very rare **Tall Fescue Planthopper** was found here recently.



LITTLE EGRET



KINGFISHER

Otters have returned and **Water Voles** have been increasing in numbers along the banks. This site, and the adjacent Coe Fen, are home to some of the most spectacular veteran **Willow** trees in Cambridge. Charles Darwin is reputed to have conducted many **Beetle** surveys here. **The Rush** is a small stream carrying water from the main river to the Granta millpond. It has recently been restored to improve water flow and conditions for the many small Fish which breed here. (Appendix 1)



THE RUSH STREAM

1.2.2 Lammas Land (GC2).

Lammas Land was formed from fields which were levelled and turned into a public park - a well-used recreation area with randomly placed trees and managed as a public park. Today it is a wide-open green space with avenues of trees along its boundaries facing the Fen Causeway and Newnham Road. Further trees, both in groups and planted individually, make a major

contribution to the character of the space. Particularly notable is the huge, symmetrical **Hornbeam** at the NE end of the cycle path. Besides this, there are a **Giant Redwood** (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*), a row of mature **Alder** trees, a fine **Beech** and a bevy of flowering **Cherry** trees – the blossom short-lived but magnificent in spring.

There are attractive views across the park and out over the mill leat to Sheep’s Green and the River Cam. Paths and cycle tracks across the park give access to the railway station, Botanic Garden and also to the centre of town via both an underpass and controlled crossings over Fen Causeway.

The large paddling pool proves a constant source of pleasure to children during the hot summer months. A kiosk/cafe opens in summer to cater for the large numbers of visitors who are attracted by the car parking and other facilities. These include cycle hire and repair, toilets, a recycling depot, tennis courts, outdoor table tennis, a bowling green and a large children’s playground. The river and mill leat are unfenced and good places to feed the ducks. Newnham does not have a village pond and Lammas Land would be an ideal area to provide one.



LAMMAS LAND



HORNBEAM



LAMMAS LAND PADDLING POOL

1.2.3 Paradise Nature Reserve (GC3).

This 2.17-hectare Local Nature Reserve (http://lnr.cambridge.gov.uk/nature_reserve/paradise/) lies between Newnham Croft School, Newnham Croft and the River Cam. The site qualifies as a County Wildlife Site (WS) because it supports at least 0.5 ha of NVC community W6 (Alder – Stinging Nettle woodland) and also qualifies as a City WS for Greater Pond Sedge swamp NVC community S6. The site is also within the Wildlife Corridor in Cambridge Local Plan (NE15).





This LNR is managed by Cambridge City Council, who have reintroduced unmanaged woodland along the banks of the Cam, providing excellent habitats for a variety of wildlife, including bryophytes, fungi, invertebrates, reptiles, birds and mammals. A winding pathway follows the line of the Cam along its western bank, the river forming the boundary to the Conservation Area, while at the back of the reserve, a boardwalk allows a circular walk. Considerable and ongoing effort has been needed to prevent this becoming a cycle path. Views from this side of the river, over the water course to the water meadows and willow trees beyond are of special note. It is a quiet, tranquil area enlivened by the distant sounds of children playing in the neighbouring Newnham Croft School and Queen's College nursery. A public car park at the end of the Driftway is used by the many visitors, often accompanied by children and dogs, although the opening hours are controlled, and charges are designed to encourage short visits but not all-day parking to prevent the spaces being used by commuters.

Trees within the Reserve include **Willow, Alder, Ash, Horse Chestnut** and **Hawthorn**. Notable species include **Butterbur**, which was first recorded over 400 years ago and whose leaves were used in the past by the Paradise House dairy for wrapping butter. Also, here are rare **Musk Beetles**, a large long-horn beetle which favours wet woodland tree species such as **willows** to lay its eggs. In spring, **Mayflies** *Ephemera vulgata* are abundant and provide food for fish, birds and bats. **Mammals** recorded include **Muntjac Deer, Common Shrew, Pygmy Shrew** and **Harvest Mouse**. Fishing along this stretch of river is popular and may sometimes provide enormous **Pike**, as well as a variety of other fish.

A small flock of feral white **Geese** has existed here on the "Triangle" for about 45 years, now reduced to 9 individuals.



BUTTERBUR



GEESE

Besides the nationally scarce **Musk Beetle**, recent records also show two **Red Data Book Diptera (fly)** species occurring here. Birds include **Sparrowhawk, Great Spotted and Green Woodpecker, Tawny Owl, Mistle Thrush, Song Thrush, Blackcap, Chiffchaff, Nuthatch, Treecreeper, Robin, Wren** and **Sedge Warblers**. **Siskins** are also seen regularly on Alder in the winter. **Whitethroat** has been recorded as nesting in the tall grassland next to the car park.



PIPISTRELLE BAT



MUSK BEETLE

A dusk bat survey carried out by Bioscan (UK) Limited in June 2022, recorded frequent **soprano pipistrelle** bat activity in Paradise Nature Reserve, as well as **common pipistrelle** foraging. *Myotis* sp (most likely **Daubeton's**) bats were recorded over the River Cam. The survey also recorded the rare species **barbastelle** bat in relatively high numbers for this species, where on other sites recordings are often only very occasional.

The River corridor, considered a site of high suitability habitat for bats, is mostly in darkness at night. Any outside lighting e.g. floodlights or light spillage from buildings, will affect the bats, especially the rare light sensitive barbastelle bat and Queens' College agreed to turn off the floodlights at the Nursery site on Owlstone Croft, bordering Paradise Nature Reserve and lighting around the Lammas Land car park area was reduced. Replacement of white light with orange, and also shielding should make a considerable difference

The Wildlife Trust runs evening punting bat tours in the summer.

1.2.4 Paradise Island (GC4) Privately owned wooded area with large detached house

1.2.5 Water Meadows (GC5) owned by St. John's College, Skaters' Meadows Nature Reserve (County Wildlife Site) owned by Cambridge Past Present and Future and adjacent meadows owned by Pembroke College.

St. John's College meadows is essentially unmanaged fen, with impenetrable **Sedge, Comfrey, Canary Reed Grass and Angelica.**

Skaters' Meadows is managed on a long-term lease by the local Wildlife Trust as a Nature Reserve. In times past, they were flooded in winter to provide skating. In the centre of each is a post which supported a lamp and the old pay booth still exists as a small brick-built hut. Skating cost 6d per evening – quite a lot in those days! Currently, the main management is to maintain the traditional hay cut and grazing so that the plant communities that have developed there over time can continue.



The reserve is important mainly for its flora, which reflects both the previous very wet conditions and the more recent dryer ones. **Horsetails, Fen Bedstraw, Spikerush, Marsh Marigold and Tubular Water-dropwort** have survived in the damper areas, while **Meadowsweet, Cuckoo Flower, Early Marsh** and **Common Spotted Orchids** are found in dryer parts. **Grass Snakes** have been seen here and **Pheasants** are a common sight. **Snipe** frequent the soft ground in the winter (though in smaller numbers than before). **Barn Owls** and **Kestrels** use the central posts as lookouts for small mammals in the grass. Small birds abound in the trees around the fields. (Appx 2).

An adjacent field, owned by St John's College, is essentially unmanaged fen, with impenetrable **Sedge, Comfrey, Canary Reed Grass** and **Angelica.**

1.2.6 Grantchester Meadows (GC6).

Continuing south, the path leads to the Grantchester Meadows which stretch between Newnham and Grantchester. These famous flood meadows are rural in character with long views over the River Cam. The popular footpath is well used by locals and visitors, as is the river, with a steady traffic of punts and canoes. **Redpoll Cattle** are grazed here for 9-10 months of the year and unfortunately are causing significant erosion and pollution of the riverbank in places.

A few years ago, an application was made to start electrically driven (“silent”) punt journeys between Cambridge centre and Grantchester. This was strongly opposed, on the grounds that while the punts might be silent, their occupants would not, especially if a bar was provided. The application was unsuccessful. Summer use of the meadows includes occasional outdoor film shows, filming for the TV programme Grantchester and, when exams are over, student barbeques after May Balls.

1.3 Water

1.3.1 River Cam (W1).

South Newnham is lucky to have both flowing and still water bodies. River frontage includes a 1.3 km length of river Cam and also 400m of Snob’s Brook (the mill race) and the Rush stream, 170m, both of which carry water to the Granta Millpond. Many species of fish mature in the stream, before migrating to the river.

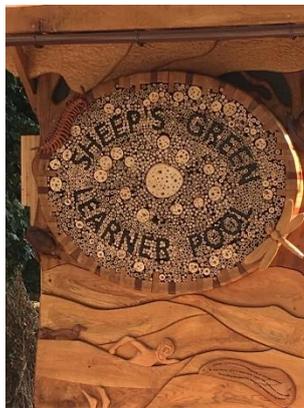
The invasive weed, **Floating Pennywort**, became a massive nuisance in the Cam over the summers of 2016 and 2017, when in places it extended from bank to bank, completely obscuring the water. In 2017/8 a programme to eliminate the weed was begun and this appears to have been very successful, though on-going vigilance will be needed.

The Cam has a long tradition of river bathing and not just in the summer! The earliest mention of bathing in Cambridge records that in 1567 the son of Walter Haddon, while at King's College, was drowned, "While washing himself in a Place in the river Cham called Paradise", and William Stukeley, the eighteenth century antiquary, when at Corpus College in 1704 wrote, "I used to frequent, among other lads, the river in Sheep's Green, and learnt to swim in Freshman's and Soph's Pools, as they are called, and sometimes in Paradise, reckoning it a Beneficial Exercise". And it was here, in 1811, that Byron's brilliant friend Matthews became entangled in weeds and was drowned.

The learners’ swimming pool, beside the river at Coe Fen, provides an opportunity to learn in safety (in the past, learners had to demonstrate their ability in Snob’s Brook before being allowed out of depth in the main river). A wooden carved sculpture has been placed to celebrate the wildlife diversity of the site, including the **Tall Fescue Planthopper**, a national rarity.



FLOATING PENNYWORT



SHEEPS GREEN
SCULPTURE



BANDED DEMOISELLE

To the north of the meadows is a footpath which leads to the former University Bathing Place. The swimming club was founded in 1855 and is one of the oldest in the country. Training took place where the course of the river was reasonably straight for 120 yards and hence was suitable for racing. It is now run as a private swimming club, the Newnham Riverbank Club. Behind manicured willow hedges, bathers sunbathe, often in the nude. **Goldcrests** and other small birds frequent the yews, while **Kingfisher** and **Common Terns** fish the river and **Barn Owls** hunt small mammals in the adjoining fields. **Banded Demoiselle Damselflies** are abundant here in summer.

There are other bathing places too: *"All summer, Sheep's Green and Coe Fen were pink with boys, as naked as God made them; for bathing drawers did not exist then: or at least, not on Sheep's Green."* - Gwen Raverat, *Period Piece* (1952).

In a memoir published in 1935 the novelist Rose Macaulay, whose father was a Fellow of Trinity College, captured the sensuous pleasure of swimming in nature early one spring morning upstream of the city. She wrote: "I let the slow flow carry me gently along through shadow and light, between long weedy strands that slimily embrace me as I drift by, between the bobbing white and gold cups and the slippery juicy stems, between willows that brush my head with light leaves, beneath banks massed high with may, smelling sharp and sweet above the musky fragrance of the tall cow-parsley."



River Cam, Paradise Nature Reserve and Grantchester Meadows

1.3.2 The Bin Brook (W2)

This stream drains the fields to the west of the city, extending about 150m through the west part of South Newnham and running through a culvert under part of Gough Way. Generally inconspicuous, it floods occasionally and there is a monitoring and pumping station here. **Kingfishers** nest in the bank of the brook. It feeds the lake, known as Bolton's Pit, behind the houses in the corner between Grantchester Rd and Barton Rd, which is privately owned and not accessible to the public.

1.3.3 Bolton's Pit (W3)

This lake is about one hectare in extent and is at least 3m deep over much of its extent. Its origin was a brick pit from which clay was extracted until about 1902. It receives good quality water from springs and occasionally from the Fulbrook, to which there is a connecting pipe in the western corner. Twenty-seven properties abut the lake shore and a reed island occupies the centre of the lake. There are a number of patches of **Yellow Waterlily** and on the western side of the lake, an extensive area of hybrid white and pink flowered Waterlilies. Close to the shore of 93 Barton Road the vegetation has been allowed to grow semi-naturally on damp ground with **Reed, Reedmace, Bur-Reed, Purple Loosestrife, Water Figwort, Water-mint, Ragged Robin** together with introduced **Fritillary** and **Narrow-leaved Water-dropwort**. At least 6 species of **Damselfly** and 7 species of **Dragonfly** have been noted (Appx 3).

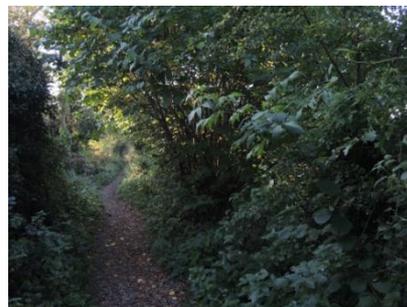
1.4 Ancient Species Rich and Protected Hedgerows

Comparison with the 1886 map shows that many of the field boundaries in South Newnham still exist in their original sites, as do those around Lammas Land flood meadows (AH1), the marshy woodland of Paradise and Paradise Island (AH2) and the Skaters Meadows (AH3). Some of the hedgerows here undoubtedly date back many centuries.

Hedges are a vital habitat for a wide range of wildlife. More than 600 plants, 1500 insects, 65 birds and 20 mammal species are known to live or feed in hedgerows. Among the species that rely strongly on hedgerows are **Brown Hare, Pipistrelle Bat, Tree Sparrow, Grey Partridge** and **Song Thrush**, all of which are priority species in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Hedges may also act as wildlife corridors, linking up areas of semi-natural habitats and allowing the movement of plants and animals throughout the countryside.



HARES



ANCIENT HEDGEROW

Ancient hedgerows are defined as those which were in existence before the Enclosure Acts of 1720 to 1840. **Species-rich** hedges are defined as those that contain five or more native woody species, on average, along a 30m length. **Important hedgerows** are those which have existed for 30 years or more and meet one of the following criteria: they mark a boundary between parishes existing before 1850; they mark an archaeological feature of a site that is a scheduled monument or noted on the Historic Environment Record; they mark the boundary of a pre-1600 estate or manor or a field system pre-dating the Enclosure Acts.

By these criteria, South Newnham has a considerable network of ancient, species-rich and important hedgerows. Both sides of the Driftway (AH1), the field boundaries between Newnham Croft School and its neighbours (AH2 - The Grove and Owlstone Croft), both sides of the path leading to the Riverbank Club (AH3), the extension of Kings Rd to St Catherine's Sports Ground (AH4), the area around the Fulbrooke Wood, both sides of Grantchester Rd (AH5) and most of the hedges surrounding Gough Way houses are species-rich and diverse, indicating ages up to 500-600 years old.

Hedgerows are offered some protection under The Hedgerow Regulations 1997. In particular, hedgerows of more than 20 metres in length, or which join other hedgerows, provided they adjoin agricultural land, forestry, paddocks, common land, village greens, a site of special scientific interest or a local nature reserve may be protected. These criteria would protect some, but not all of our hedges (Appx 4).

1.5 Tree Canopy Cover

1.5.1 This excerpt from the City's Arboricultural Strategy: Cambridge City Council Citywide Tree Strategy 2016-2026 states:

"The canopy cover in the City averaged 17%, ranging from 12% in Cherry Hinton ward to 22% in Newnham ward..... Castle, Newnham, Market and Trumpington wards had the highest proportions of taller trees.... **The City of Cambridge's canopy cover target will be 19% by 2030.**"

For the City as a whole, "A percentage increase of 2% could be achieved by increasing canopy cover within wards to the City average. An aspirational percentage increase of 5% should be considered as a secondary target for the City."

Although Newnham already exceeds the target for Cambridge City canopy cover, residents with privately owned large gardens, institutions such as Colleges and agricultural landowners should be encouraged to plant specimens that will have large canopies in their open spaces wherever possible. **Lime, Ash, Norway Maple, Oak, Beech, Sycamore, Chestnut** and **London Plane** should be considered rather than **Birch** or **Cherry**, which have less potential to become large mature trees. When mature, these species provide more benefit to the urban environment due to their larger mature size and dense canopies. A target of 2% increase in canopy cover should be considered a minimum for Newnham, even though it is currently well-endowed.

1.5.2 Trees with Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs). Of the 22% existing canopy cover, 14% is associated with individual or group TPOs (City Tree Policy) (Appx 5).

1.5.3 Street trees are defined as those growing outside private gardens, alongside the highway. The wider streets and Barton Rd are reasonably well provided with street trees. They also have bigger gardens and many garden trees. In the case of Newnham Croft and Kings Rd / Fulbrooke Rd, there is considerable scope to increase street tree provision. In particular, small islands to protect fire hydrant water points could contain trees or other planting (Appx 6).



1.6 Orchards

In 1886, the six small fields at Barton Farm (now Laundry Farm) were shown as orchard, but not in 1901 nor 1925 and later maps. However, there are many ancient fruit trees here, some of which must be over well 100 years old. Ten fruit trees have either hollow trunks or branches (this brings it within the definition of an Ancient Orchard.) Hedges are a mixture of mature and immature **Hawthorn, Sloe, Elder** and **Suckering Elm**, some of which has died back, but in other places is flourishing. This site would be ideal for a community orchard for Newnham. Newnham Croft School had a lovely old apple orchard in the 60s, but this was much reduced to make a car park (App 7). Two of the trees remain but are in turn threatened by the need for more car parking space.

Millington Wood and Croft Farm

Before houses were built in Millington Rd, the old Croft farm extended back from Barton Rd, with stables, yard and an area of woodland. The farmhouse (1850) still exists and the small remaining area of wood is home to **Foxes and Badgers**. The now formal hedges are invaded by **Hop** and **White Bryony** in places. The 2018 plans to redevelop the site retain the wild area at the rear.

1.7 Playing Fields

Downing College (PF1), St. Catharine's College (PF2) and Pembroke College Sports Fields (PF3). These are expansive sports fields, well maintained and with attractive views. There is free access to for local residents, though dogs should be kept on the lead (they rarely are). Pembroke College also provides some allotment space for local residents. In addition to these, **Corpus Christi College** playing field lies beyond Gough Way and **Selwyn, King's, Robinson and Queens College** grounds extend the green spaces beyond the village on the south side of Barton Rd. Accepting that their primary purpose is to provide sports facilities, there is much that could improve biodiversity, including more tree planting around the edges, allowing hedges to grow taller, providing pollinator borders and bird and bat boxes.

1.8 Notable Species

1.8.1 Birds

In Owlstone Road, swift boxes have contributed to the return of nesting **Swifts**, which have been displaced in many parts of the city by the conversion of lofts to dwelling spaces. It is hoped that boxes can be provided in other parts of Newnham. Newnham is the only ward in West Cambridge where **House Sparrows** nest. These once common birds are now quite rare, due to reduction in nesting opportunities as ivy is stripped from walls and lofts are converted. **Starlings** have also declined in number but can still be seen and may roost on reed island in Bolton's Pit (W3) in late summer. **Fieldfare, Redwing, Siskin** and **Snipe** are regular winter visitors to Newnham, while summer visitors include **Chiffchaff, Blackcap, Swifts** and even the occasional **Cuckoo, Nuthatch** and **Treecreepers** are sometimes seen in Paradise.

Tawny Owls can be heard calling and **Barn Owls** seen over the meadows, while **Little Owls** and **Long-Eared Owls** have been seen occasionally. **Buzzards, Sparrowhawks, Kestrels** and more recently **Red Kite** are raptors seen in our skies. Waterfowl include **Greylag** and **Canada Geese, Mute Swans, Mallards, Moorhen**, while **Kingfishers, Cormorants** and **Common Terns** may be seen fishing. Occasional **Little Grebes** and **Great Crested Grebes** have been seen. Both **Green** and **Great Spotted Woodpeckers** occur here.



SWIFT CHICKS



GREY HERON



BARN OWL



LITTLE GREBE

In winter, a large mixed flock of **Rooks** and **Jackdaws** (300-400 altogether) gather in the tall trees of Paradise Island (GC3) at dawn and dusk. These trees are taken over in the summer by a **Heronry**, with 4-5 nests in 2018. Over Bolton's Pit, there has been an autumn flock of up to 1000 **Starlings**, creating a murmuration which roosts on the island in the lake.

1.8.2 Bats

The River Corridor is considered by ecologists to be a habitat of high suitability for bats and eight species of bat have been recorded : **Common and Soprano Pipistelle, Daubenton's Noctule, Brown Long-eared, Serotine, Nyctalus**, and the **Barbastelle** bat, recorded in significant numbers for this rare species.

1.8.3 Amphibia and Mammals

A number of Amphibian and Reptile species have been noted: **Grass Snake, Slowworm** (not recently), **Smooth Newts, Toads** and **Frogs**. Mammals include **Otters, Water Voles, Fox, Muntjac, Hare, Stoat. Badgers** are flourishing, with several nearby setts. **Mice, Voles** and **Shrews** are found in the fields and occasional **Stoats** have been seen. **Moles** may play havoc with the grass in parks and playing fields! **Hedgehogs** have decreased over time, probably due to the difficulty of accessing gardens as people renew their fences, but additionally to the much dryer conditions and to the threat from Badgers. In 2018/19, adopted hedgehogs were released in Eltisley Ave and Fulbrooke Rd to try and reverse this trend.



COMMON FROG



GRASS SNAKE

1.8.4 Fish

At least 13 species of Fish can be found in the Cam, including some enormous **Pike** (17lb and longer than a man's arm). In 2017, electrofishing the Rush stream produced **Eels, Perch, Roach, Dace, Chub, Gudgeon, Minnows** and **Sticklebacks**. In 2019, an adult **Brown Trout**, adult **Eel** and a **Spined Loach** were added to this list. **Rudd, Tench** and **Pike** are found in Bolton's Pit. #



BROWN TROUT



SPINED LOACH

1.8.5 Invertebrates

A comprehensive survey of invertebrates has not been carried out. **Mayflies, Butterflies, Bees, Damselflies** and **Dragonflies** abound in the summer months, especially around the river. Notable species include the **Musk Beetle** (GC3-Paradise) and the **Tall Fescue Planthopper** (GC1-Coe Fen). See Appx 1 for details of plants and animals associated with Bolton's Pit Lake. Newnham has the only UK record of the **Spider** *Frontinellina frutetorum* (though this was probably an accidental introduction).

1.8.6 Plants

Butterbur (*Petasites hybridus*), the **Fen Vegetation** of the Skaters Meadows, the veteran **Willow Trees** and the ancient **Hedgerows** are all relics of former plant life. **Orchids** are found in the Skaters Meadows and Grantchester Meadows (GC5) (Appx 8).

2. POLICY SECTION 2- PROTECTING AND ENHANCING LOCAL GREEN SPACES, MAP2

2.1 Introduction

South Newnham Neighbourhood is dotted with a number of Local Green Spaces that are valued as natural assets in the community. Cambridge City Council Open Space and Recreation Strategy, October, 2011, sets out the criteria for protected open spaces within the Cambridge City boundary. The Cambridge City Council Local Plan 2018 Designation Schedule includes green spaces in the South Newnham neighbourhood area and these include playing fields, parks and local green spaces, as detailed in Appendix 10. They all adhere to the description provided by the NPPF.

Four Local Green Spaces, which meet the national test (paragraph 102 of the NPPF 2021) as described in Appendix C of the Neighbourhood Plan are being proposed:

2.2 Gough Way Children's Play Area (LGS1).

A square parcel of land 50m x 50m that was part of the original estate, set aside for recreation and planting, including a large **Horse Chestnut** tree. There is a children's play area with climbing frame, zip line, and other play equipment, as well as a field on which games such as children's football can be played. The estate demographic now has children again, and this area is a popular spot for residents as well as visitors from other parts of the Neighbourhood Area and the city. The field is also the venue for the annual estate summer party. The Council keeps the grass mown.



CONKERS



CHILDRENS PLAY AREA

2.3 Skaters' Meadow Footpath (LGS2).

At the end of Grantchester Meadows road is **Skaters Meadow footpath** that leads to a narrow path besides secondary woodland on the edge of Pembroke College playing field and into Grantchester meadows. Skaters Meadow footpath, Cambridgeshire County Council Public Right of Way 39/32, is legally a footpath and has become a rutted area due to parking by visitors, daily commuters, and recently by caravans and residential vehicles/motorhomes. The footpath has the potential to grow wild again and return to its historic condition as a green and leafy transition into the meadows. In 2018, the County Council illegally felled a healthy mature **Ash** tree when working on the footpath. The City Council insisted on replacement trees, and an **Alder** and 3 **Field Maples** were funded by the County Council. These were planted in spring 2019 in a newly

created verge, which was sown with grass seed, and subsequently with wildflower seed to create a pollinator flower strip. Further work is required to increase biodiversity and make the footpath a pleasing progression from town to countryside for walkers and cyclists.



To the right of the footpath is a huge mature **Ash** tree and an area of woodland, with **Alder, Field Maple, Horse Chestnut, Hawthorn, Hazel, Elder, Sycamore, Walnut** and **Oak**. Beyond these, a raised bank covered in nettles separates the wood from playing fields and further on, it merges into allotments. There is a **Badger** sett in this area and lots of birdsong.



PATH TO GRANTCHESTER MEADOWS

AERIAL VIEW OF SKATERS MEADOWS AND PEMBROKE ALLOTMENTS

2.4 Secondary Woodland at Pembroke College Allotments (LGS3)

To the north-west of the footpath are the playing field of St. Catherine's and Pembroke Colleges. There is some secondary woodland here along the ancient track and hedgerow and some fine **Poplar** trees within the adjacent allotments that are outside the neighbourhood area. The area is a haven for small birds, with much bramble and nettle cover, as well as undergrowth and taller trees. **Stoats, Hares, Moles, Foxes, Bullfinch, Jays**, nesting **Kestrels, Fieldfare** and **Redwing** in the winter, **Green Woodpecker** and also **Slow Worms** and **Grass Snakes** have all been seen here. There are also abundant **Pheasants, Squirrels, Pigeons, Rats, Mice** and **Muntjac Deer**.

2.5 Newnham Croft Primary School Playing Field (PF7) and Wilderness Area (LGS4)

Newnham Croft Primary School has a playing field and an enclosed wildlife area at the far end of the playing field which is bordered on the east side by the Paradise boardwalk. The wilderness

area is an important resource for learning and is used by the Forest School. It is closed to the general public.

The wilderness area has an artificial lined pond with pond-dipping platform, restored in 2016. There are a number of mature trees, including **Lime, Birch, Field Maple** and **Ash**. The canopy has been opened up by removing a lot of ivy and there has been some ground-cover clearance removing some brambles and nettles, opening up the paths in the woodland. Similar work has been carried out by the Council along the riverbank close to Lammas Land, opposite Hodson's folly. The school planted 100 saplings in 2019 to re-wood the areas that have been laid open by tree work carried out in the adjacent property as well as the work carried out by the school. Daffodils, bluebells and snowdrops have been planted throughout the area.

Muntjac Deer are regular visitors. There are moles active in the area and extending into the playing fields. **Foxes** have been spotted, as have **Pheasant** and **Heron**. There is a pond survey planned in the near future. There are nesting boxes for birds and **Bats** and the children have built a bug hotel and placed boxes for **Hedgehogs** in the area (Appx 7).



The playing field and wilderness area are of great recreational value to pupils, and are also used by community groups and the After School Club, and also for community events such as the Daffodil Day, Summer Fete, Fireworks and other events.

2.6 Wide Green Verges Along North Side of Barton Road (LGS5).

Along the north side of much of the length of Barton Road as one approaches from the west are wide grass verges, planted with trees at regular intervals. They provide not only a safe walking and cycling area segregated from the busy motor traffic, where local children can travel to school in safety, but entice us, to a pleasant, green welcome to the city from the countryside. There are efforts to rewild these borders to increase biodiversity.



3.0 POLICY SECTION 3 – PROTECTING AND MAINTAINING THE CONNECTIVITY NETWORK, MAP 3

3.1 Introduction

South Newnham benefits from a high level of connectivity, within the Neighbourhood, and with other areas of Cambridge, which is highly valued by residents. In the context of this Plan, the differing components of connectivity have been defined as benefiting the Pedestrian, Cyclist and Bus User.

During consultations, the residents of Newnham were asked to identify aspects of the network of safe pedestrian and cycle routes in the area that they would like to see protected and retained and others which they would like to see improved.

The results of the consultations showed that a large number of the residents both walk and use bicycles regularly, with many enjoying both.

3.2 Pedestrians

A network of safe routes within the South Newnham Neighbourhood Area includes lanes, footpaths and alleyways many dating from Victorian times and all are an important feature of the area, much loved and relied on by residents. These paved, unpaved and gravel lanes and alleyways provide residents with safe short cuts between areas.

Extract from Cambridge City Council emerging Local Plan 2014.

1.48. “An essential part of South Newnham’s character stems from the relationship between the buildings and open spaces, with many of the open spaces following the River Cam and linked together with footpaths and cycle routes, forming an extensive green network”

3.2.1 Pavements

Pavements run besides roads and streets throughout the neighbourhood and in the Victorian and Edwardian streets the pavements are narrow and uneven. Bins and bicycles are frequently left on pavements throughout the area, and in narrow streets subject to parking pressure, cars may be parked with two wheels on the pavement. Consequently, pavements can be difficult to navigate safely, particularly for the elderly and mothers with buggies and young children, so that pedestrians frequently resort to walking down the road.

There are some particular danger spots for pedestrians, especially at the junction of **Grange Road/Barton Road**, Eltisley Avenue/Grantchester Street/Chedworth Street, the access to Newnham Croft School. The majority of children arrive at school on foot or by bicycle but despite double yellow lines, cars still park to drop children off for school and congestion at this junction with parked cars is dangerous.

3.2.2 Footpaths. Footpaths run throughout the neighbourhood, two of them famous: -

- a) Skaters Meadow and Grantchester Meadows Footpath. The footpath giving access to and through the water meadows leading to the village of Grantchester is world famous, with its views across the River Cam and open fields, and it attracts many visitors from all over the

world. The path is shared with cyclists but is not suitable for fast cycling. Map Ref F1 and F2.

- b) **Paradise Nature Reserve Footpaths.** The gravel and wood boarded walk through Paradise Nature Reserve follows the River Cam and is a quiet sanctuary for nature lovers. Map Ref F3.

Coupled with the footpaths across Lammas Land and Sheep's Green, they link into an extensive green network as also described in Green Infrastructure Network Evidence Base1.

- 3.2.3 Lammas Land** There are shared pedestrian/cycle paths along Barton Road and across Lammas Land which enable walkers to enjoy a pleasant walk into Cambridge, joining other routes to different parts of the town center. Map Ref F4.

- 3.2.4 Sheep's Green.** There are footpaths which lead from the car park on Driftway to the Learner Pool and the Canoe Club, Lammas Land and across the river by the green bridge to Trumpington Road, en route to the Train Station and Botanic Gardens. Map Ref F5.

- 3.2.5 Church Rate Walk.** Running from Newnham Road along the side of Gonville and Caius Playing Field, this is a safe route for pedestrians and cyclists through to the Colleges and Faculty buildings in Sedgwick Avenue as well as to the Doctor's Surgery in Wordsworth Grove. Map Ref F6.

- 3.2.6** Running along both sides of Gough Way and side roads there are safe footpaths. Map Ref F7.



GRANCHESTER MEADOWS FOOTPATH



LAMMAS LAND SHARED FOOT/CYCLE

3.3 Lanes.

- 3.3.1** For Gough Way residents, two lanes give access for pedestrians and cyclists to Barton Road and Cranmer Road. Map Ref L1.

- 3.3.2** A lane leading off Fulbrooke Road gives access to the allotments, college playing fields and Cocks and Hens Tennis Club. Map Ref L2.

- 3.3.3** Along the back of Selwyn Road gardens, there is a wide lane giving access to the gardens and sheds at the back of these houses. Map Ref L3.

3.3.4 Off Kings Road there is a lane (Mud Lane) leading to Downing College playing field with a gate through to Millington Road alleyway. This is a safe route for cyclists and walkers to travel to and from Newnham Croft via Marlowe Road. Map Ref L4.

3.3.5 Short Lane in an unadopted road that links Owlstone Croft to Grantchester Street and forms part of the pedestrian route from Paradise Nature Reserve to Grantchester Meadows used by so many walkers. Short Lane was not constructed for motor traffic, and when it was first surfaced in 2002 the specification was to the standard of a private drive. The width of the lane and verges, which is 3.5 m at its narrowest point, is shown on The Cambridge City Council Environment Improvement Layout drawn up at that time.



LAND BEHIND SELWYN RD



GOUGH WAY FOOTPATH BESIDE ROAD



MUD LANE



Lane linking Kings Road to College playing fields and via Millington Road to Newnham Croft



LANE FROM GRANTCHESTER MEADOWS TO PLAYING FIELDS

3.4 Alleyways

Alleyways are regularly used by residents and are marked on the policies map. They are generally earth and pebbles and grassy pathways and thus have a rural feel, providing a haven for wildlife. They provide a safe route between roads as described below:

3.4.1 Marlowe Road. In Newnham Croft an alleyway between Marlowe Road and Millington Road connects Newnham Croft to the western part of the Neighbourhood Area. It is a safe route for pedestrians and cyclists instead of negotiating access across the Barton Road, especially for children coming to school in the Croft. Map Ref A1.

3.4.2 Eltisle Road alleyway runs along the backs of houses to Marlowe Road. Map Ref A2.

3.4.3 Grantchester Street to Grantchester Meadows. This is also used at night by Badgers and Foxes!
Map Ref A3.



BADGER IN SNICKET 1.15AM



FOX IN SNICKET 3.30AM

3.4.4 Lammas Field alleyway gives safe access for residents to the Driftway, avoiding the busy Barton Road/Grantchester Street junction. Map Ref A4.

3.4.5 Gonville and Caius Playing Field alleyway runs at the rear of the playing field linking Church Rate Walk with Clare Road. Map Ref A5.

3.4.6 St. Marks Close to Champneys Walk. Map Ref A6.



**Alleyway Grantchester St. to
Grantchester Meadows**



**Alleyway Marlowe Road to
Millington Lane**

Alleyways also run along the bottoms of gardens and were originally used for removing night soil in Victorian and Edwardian terraces and enable residents to bring bins out from back gardens onto the street for weekly collection, not to mention the early morning exits of illicit lovers. Residents at the end of alleyways where there is no further access, have sometimes fenced off that part of the alleyway which adjoins their property thus blocking off the end of the alleyway.

Alleyways have been marked on the policies map in the following streets: Hardwick Street A7, Newnham Croft Street A8, Derby Street (2) A9, Merton Street (northside) A10, Owlstone Road (northside) A11, Owlstone Road (eastside) A12, Marlowe Road (eastside) A13, Selwyn Road (eastside) (7) A14, Selwyn Road (westside) A15, and Fulbrooke Road (northside) A16, Fulbrooke Road (south side) (6) A17.

3.5 Cyclists

There are cycle routes crossing the whole of the South Newnham Neighbourhood Area, which provide a safe means for children getting to school, people cycling to work, residents cycling to shops, and recreational cycling. These are not suitable for fast cycling, and the development of direct cycle routes for cycling commuters between the villages and workplace destinations will need to take into account where cycle paths are shared with pedestrians and/or are routed onto roads that are already congested.

3.5.1 Designated Cycle Routes

- a) **Barton Road**, Map Ref C1. Alongside the Barton Road a busy cycle route is shared with a pedestrian route, with a demarcation line in the middle. It is used by schoolchildren and their parents cycling to the primary school, students, and workers, some of whom are cycling into Cambridge. This is most heavily used between 7.30am and 9.00am and again in the late afternoon.

Resurfacing and widening the path where necessary, without removing any trees, would be supported. The edges of the path can be over-grown and regular maintenance would help to keep these clear. Benches could be moved to be nearer to the bus stop or replaced if in bad repair. Introduction of solar stud lighting beyond the city limits would help cyclists. There are three main junctions along the Barton Road, a very busy main road out of Cambridge, with multiple side road junctions.

- J1 - The main junction is at the traffic light on Barton Road and Grantchester Street where four roads meet on a sharp bend and at peak times this is a dangerous junction.
- J2 - The Barton Road/Grantchester Road junction is also un-safe, and we would support improvements to make this junction safer for pedestrians and cyclists.
- J3 - The Grange Road junction is used for cyclists going to West Cambridge Colleges and Faculty buildings and the University Library and improvement of this junction would create a link and safe route between the southside of Barton Road, Grange Road and Gough Way with Newnham Croft.

Side road junctions cross over the cycle and walking routes and we would support reconfiguring these to slow down turning motor vehicles.



Barton Road cycle/pedestrian route



Barton Road/Grantchester Street traffic lights. Children on bicycles



Eltisley Avenue/Grantchester Street/Chedworth Street junction.
Entrance to Newnham Croft Primary School.

- b) **Lammas Land.** Another much used cycle path is across Lammas Land park, which is shared with pedestrians and is illuminated by solar studs at night. Map Ref C2.
- c) **The Driftway** is an alternative route for cyclists going to the station across Sheep's Green. Map Ref C3.
- d) **Gough Way** There are two cycle routes from the Gough Way area estate leading to the Barton Road and Cranmer Road. Map Ref C4.
- e) **Skaters Meadow and Grantchester Meadows** Footpath This popular pedestrian footpath though the water meadows are shared with cyclists between Grantchester Meadows road and Grantchester village. This is very busy on weekends and in summer as residents and visitors come to Grantchester Meadows to enjoy the tranquility, views, and wildlife of the water meadows. Map Ref C5.

3.5.2 Cycling on Roads

Across the neighborhood cyclists share roads with cars

- a) **Barton Road.** Large vehicles parked along the road make cycling here dangerous. A reduction in the speed limit and more double yellow lines would enable cyclists to go fast and to do so safely.
- b) **Grantchester Road.** This is an access road to Grantchester Village and the bus route to Cambourne. It becomes a 'rat run' in the morning for cars both accessing and avoiding busy Barton Road as people drive to work and parents take children to school. Traffic calming measures and a lower speed limit would make this a "quieter" road to the benefit of residents, pedestrians and cyclists.
- c) **Newnham Croft.** Cyclists coming across Grantchester Meadow continue down Eltisley Avenue, which is a narrow street with cars parked on both sides. Where Eltisley Avenue meets Grantchester Street and Chedworth Street, five narrow roads all meet at a junction where visibility is poor, making this an acknowledged danger spot. Chedworth Street, at this junction, is the sole access to Newnham Croft Primary School.

- d) **The Driftway** which provides cars with access to the carpark beside Paradise Nature Reserve is also used extensively by cyclists.

3.6 Bus Services

Nos. 18, 75 and 119 serve the SNNF area. A bus service for those with mobility challenges can be requested.

The Importance of the word “Safe” in this section cannot be stressed highly enough. We need all routes to be safe. In addition, users of these routes, particularly cyclists, should ensure they are visible with good lights and take care to accommodate other users of these routes

4.0 POLICY SECTION 4 – IMPROVING AND ENHANCING NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY ASSETS, MAP 4

4.1 Introduction

South Newnham is well served with community services and facilities, including a comprehensive range of food shops, a GP and a Dental Surgery, primary school, church, pub, retirement home, and a sports and social club. All are within walking or cycling distance and bring a vibrancy and sense of village lifestyle to South Newnham.

These facilities, as well as the extensive open spaces in South Newnham, are enjoyed by residents as well as people from other parts of Cambridge who value the easy access to the shops and the opportunities for relaxation and exercise provided by the open spaces.

All these facilities which contribute to the distinctive character of South Newnham are vulnerable to pressures from planning applications and development proposals which will be vigilantly scrutinised to ensure that the special character of South Newnham is preserved and enhanced.

4.2 Retail Provision

4.2.1 Shops

- **Newnham Bakery/Café (R1).** This is the only Café in Newnham and the Oldest Bakery in **Cambridge**. The history of Newnham Bakery goes back a long way - the first mention of a dwelling at 7 Derby Street was 1861 and the first bakery on site started in 1874. It has become a popular Café.
- **The Co-Operative Food Store (R2).** Situated in Grantchester Street the store belongs to the Co-Op Food network, recently rebranded as local community store as part of that programme within the Co-Op group. Shoppers with a Co-Op card can nominate local charities to receive small dividend linked to the amount of their spend in the shop. This has generated some significant contributions to the Newnham Educational Trust (NET) and the Scout group. The Co-Op benefits from its corner position, good footfall and casual shopping by locals as well as passing commercial trade.
- **Derby Stores/Post Office/Newsagent (R3).** The post office is a valuable asset for Newnham and the stores stock a wide variety of groceries, delicatessen food and fruit and vegetables. Neema's home cooked curries are very popular.
- **The Red Bull Pub (R4).** Located on Barton Road, the Red Bull offers food, games nights, and play-reading, and a meeting room is available for community use free-of-charge (or for cost of coffee & drinks).
- **Cousins Butchers (R5).** This is a traditional family butcher shop located in the heart of Newnham and will soon be celebrating its 100th anniversary. The shop offers top-quality, locally sourced and locally farmed food. Their own recipe hand-made sausages are "Best in UK" award winners. Award winning steak pies, chicken pies, quiches are all prepared and cooked in the shop.



- **The Studio (R6).** This is a small one-room space in Grantchester Street used by a sculptor intermittently during the week and on Saturdays) and a jeweller (weekday mornings).
- **GP Motors (R7).** Established in 1981 this garage offers vehicle servicing, MOT, repairs and diagnostics.
- **Meadows (R9)** – recently opened as a farm shop.

4.2.2 Mobile Shops

- Fish and Chip** van serving freshly cooked fish and chips parked on Eltisley Avenue/Grantchester Street on Tuesday evenings.
- Fish monger** providing an itinerant presence in the area on Friday afternoons (Fulbrooke Road) and Saturday mornings (junction of Chedworth Street and Grantchester Street).



- Kebab van** - operating every evening on Newnham Road.
- Ice Cream** - van in summer.

4.3 Healthcare Services

The medical, dental and physical care facilities are greatly valued by the residents of South Newnham as they are locally situated and easily accessible albeit the Newnham Walk Surgery and the Granta Dental Surgery are situated just outside the South Newnham Neighbourhood Area. Both are sufficiently close to area be within easy walking distance and avoids the need for lengthy journeys by car or public transport to medical and dental facilities. Newnham Chemist is also a vital local health facility allowing families and elderly residents to collect prescriptions without a more difficult journey into the centre of Cambridge.

- **Newnham Chemist (R10).** Situated in Eltisley Avenue and run by Mrs Jank, a fully qualified pharmacist, the chemist provides a prescription dispensing service as well as general advice to customers and support for the elderly in the area. Newnham Chemist also holds a wide range of off-shelf medical and health care products. \

- **Newnham Walk Surgery** – This is a large, popular medical practice in Wordsworth Grove with prescription pick up linked to the Newnham Chemist.
- **Granta Dental Surgery. Located near the Mill** in Newnham Road, the surgery offers a full range of services including repairing oral decay and damage, hygienist visits, orthopaedics and orthodontics, and cosmetic procedures.
- **Cambridge Orthodontic Practice (R11)** This practice, provided by Anglia Orthodontics, is situated in the Pavilion on the drift way on the south side of Lammas Land and offers the largest range of orthodontic treatments available in Cambridgeshire.
- **Cambridge Sports Physio and Back Care (R12)** The Cambridge clinic operates from the physio room at Cambridge Rugby Club

4.4 Education Services

All the Educational Activities centred around the Newnham Croft Primary School site are vital and integral to the life and vibrancy of the South Newnham community. Key to this is the sense of local management, involvement and organisation. The rhythm of the day for many families centres around journeys to and from the school (often by bicycle) and the safe environment it provides. The school is a key local employer with a staff of 32 full and part time teachers, teaching assistant and support staff. The footfall generated by the school supports the local shops including the café at the bakery.

- **Newnham Croft Primary School (E1).** Newnham Croft is a primary school funded and supported by Cambridgeshire Local Authority. About 235 children aged 4-11 years attend the school and most live in the community of Newnham. A significant number are children of Cambridge academics, many of whom come from abroad. This cultural diversity contributes to the rich learning environment that the school provides in partnership with parents/carers and the wider community. Located close to the River Cam, Paradise Nature Reserve and Lammas Land, the school benefits from this green setting, with nearly two acres of grounds including a wildlife area, extensive playing fields and an all-weather pitch for sport, as well as a sand pit and a smaller, equipped separate playground for the youngest children, allowing learning to take place both indoors and out. The school was built in the 1980s, and comprises eight classrooms, an ICT room, the school hall, a resources room, a food technology room, music room, a library area, offices, staff room and community room. There are facilities for the disabled and wheelchair accessible entrances. The classrooms themselves are arranged in two wings, one for each Key Stage, connected in the middle by the library.
- **Scout and Guide Centre (E2).** Located to side of the main school held under a separate lease from the County Council is the Scout and Guide centre used by groups from the Scout and also the Guide Association, including Rangers, Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows. These groups have access to the school grounds out-of-hours under licence arrangements and help keep the school grounds protected from vandalism. During the school holidays, the centre is let to an experienced provider of creative art courses for youngsters (“Arty Crafty”) and is popular with many parents and their children. The school grounds are also available to the children during the lunch and break
- **Community Room.** At the side of the nursery school is a community room which is used by the Nursery (see E3 below) during the day and then in evening by the After-School club. During the holidays the After-School Club is also open during the daytime offering activities

and care for the children of working parents. **School Hall / Community Lettings.** The School Hall is let on a regular basis in the evening for classes (e.g. Yoga) and can also be hired for community events at the weekend.

4.5 Nursery Provisions

- **The Newnham Pre-School Nursery (E3)**, Chedworth Street, is a weekday nursery operating in a large and adaptable Community Room in a secure precinct within the confines of the Newnham Croft Primary School. Sessions are available from 8.45 to 14.30 on weekdays. Again, nursery is a separate commercial venture not part of the school.
- **Queens' College in Owlstone Road (E4)**, has its own nursery for Fellows, staff and students of Queen's College as well as the outside community for children from 3 months to school age. The nursery has its own purpose-built building and expansive garden built in 2015 to accommodate up to 25 children.
- **The Millington Road Nursery (E5)**, situated down a Lane off Millington Road provides for children from all over the world whose parents are resident in Cambridge. It offers a cosmopolitan and exciting cultural environment for learning with equal opportunities for all.
- **Mobile Library** This is a monthly service provided by Cambridgeshire County Council on the 2nd Thursday of the month, 9.40am-10.35am at Lammas Court, Newnham

4.6 Pastoral Services

- **St. Mark's Church (P1)** - The church complex provides a distinctive early 20th century building for worship, Though the vicarage is not occupied by the vicar is garden is another valuable community resource directly accessible from the larger of the two halls and currently available for the Annual Fete notwithstanding the vicarage being let. The complex as a whole is a pastoral asset in the widest sense.
- **St. Mark's Community Centre (P2)** - The church halls provide a valuable resource for the whole community as a meeting place for groups, classes and other activities available to Newnham residents and those living outside the South Newnham area. Classes, which take place on weekdays in both the morning and afternoon, include arts and crafts (painting, life drawing patchwork and quilting), U3A (duplicate and rubber bridge), keep fit (yoga, Pilates, dancing, Feldenkrais), Mothers and toddler, bumps to babes, and brownies. An Annual Fete is held on a Saturday afternoon in June/July and is popular event raising funds for the church and the charities it supports and giving residents and visitors an opportunity to relax and have fun in the pleasant surroundings of the large Vicarage garden. A "Ploughman's Lunch" is offered in the community centre on the second Wednesday each month.

4.7 Significant Employers

- **Wolfson College** The largest employer in South Newnham Wolfson College with over 100 academic staff and 75 support staff on its 9-acre site, part of which is in South Newnham. The College has 650 undergraduate and post graduate students, of whom 450 live on site.

- **Kaplan Language School.** A significant South Newnham employer contributing to the South Newnham and Cambridge economies.

4.8 Leisure Facilities

The open spaces that comprise 75% of the Neighbourhood Area and are described in Section 1 Green Infrastructure Policy SNNP1, provide extensive Leisure Facilities.

These are listed below: -

- Lammas Land
- Paradise Nature Reserve
- Grantchester Meadows
- River Cam
- Pembroke Allotments
- College Playing Fields (Downing, St Catharine's, Pembroke, Gonville and Caius, and Corpus Christi Colleges)
- Gough Way Play Area

4.9 Sporting and Social Facilities.

The sports clubs with their well organised coaching and development programmes offer excellent opportunities for young people enjoy and develop their skills within a structured and properly safeguarded environment. Equally for adults wanting to take up a new sport or return after some years, the clubs offer support and coaching for all levels of ability. As such these facilities are highly valued both by the local South Newnham community, the City and surrounding villages. Development programmes for teenagers and young people in the twilight zone (i.e. after school to 8pm) should be explored with the Children and Young Persons service of the City Council. Social facilities situated locally are important in fostering neighbourhood cohesion and enjoyment for all, and the presence of such facilities in the South Newnham area is greatly valued.

Sporting and social facilities are listed below: -

- **Cambridge Rugby Union Football Club - CRFUC (S1)** – this club was formed in 1923 and has a 1250 capacity ground in Grantchester Street. The club runs three senior squads and has a colt's team for the under 18s.
- **Cambridge Canoe Club and Learners Pool (S2)** – the clubhouse is located on Sheep's Green adjacent to Lammas Land. The club is affiliated to Canoe England and provides coaching to all ages for all forms of canoeing and kayaking. The Sheep's Green Learners Pool is popular large rectangular paddling pool maintained by the Council and ideal for children. It is 0.9m deep and free to use and has changing rooms available. There is a public car park nearby.
- **Bowls Club (S3)** - Located on Lammas Land and founded in 1928, this is a friendly club offering a first-class green and facilities for bowlers of all ages and abilities with coaching available for newcomers and improvers.

- **Newnham Croft Social and Sports Club (NCSSC) (S4)** - Located at the end of Hardwick Street in freehold premises that it owns. The Club is an unincorporated organisation regulated under the Friendly Societies Act 1974, owned by the members and regulated by the FCA. The Club is licensed to sell alcohol to members, their guests, visitors and visiting team members, and the function room can be hired for events.

Facilities include: -

- a) a snooker room equipped with four full size snooker or billiards tables
 - b) a side bar with a single pool table (and two fruit machines)
 - c) a function room with a dance floor and lounge area
 - d) small kitchen suitable for setting out refreshments and pre-prepared food and buffets
 - e) Games and social activities offered are:
 - f) snooker teams playing the local Cambridge league as well as casual play during opening hours
 - g) pool and skittles teams registered into the local leagues
 - h) cribbage, bingo, and table tennis
 - i) social events such as a quiz nights and occasional live music
- **The Newnham Riverbank Club (S5)** – this club is located by the river Cam in Grantchester Meadows and dedicated to continuing the Cambridge tradition of swimming in the river. From here you can swim a 2km stretch of the river up to Byron’s pool in Grantchester.
 - **Tennis Facilities (S6)** – There is a tennis court Located on Lammas Land, this recently refurbished court on Lammas Land is available at all hours for those who wish to use it. There is also a tennis club, “Cocks and Hens”, to the west of the Cambridge Rugby club just outside the Neighbourhood Area.

4.10 Professional Services

- **Barr Architects (R13)** The Studio, Newnham Croft Street, SB3 9HR.

5.0 POLICY SECTION 5 – PROTECTING AND SUPPORTING HOMES AND FACILITIES FOR OLDER PEOPLE, MAP 4

5.1 Lammas Court Care Home

Lammas Court is situated on Grantchester Street and is in within easy access of a bus stop (20 yards), shop (8 yards), post office (10 yards), town centre 0.5 miles, GP surgery (40 yards) and social centre 0.5 miles.

It was built in 1982 and provides retirement housing, including 24 studio and one-bedroom flats. There is a lounge, dining room, laundry, guest facilities and a garden. The staff are non-residential and there is a careline alarm service. In addition, a Meals on Wheels service provides ready-prepared meals for those who are housebound and unable to provide meals for themselves.



Lammas Court

6.0 POLICY SECTION 6 – CONSERVING ADDITIONAL IDENTIFIED LOCAL HERITAGE ASSETS, MAP 5

6.1 Proposed Heritage Assets

The following buildings are being proposed as Heritage Assets:

1. **Newnham Croft Social Club (H1)** - The Newnham Croft Institute as it was called at its official foundation in 1902 is a relatively late example of a Victorian working men's club. The growing community and thriving businesses of Newnham Croft provided momentum for a club. Designed by the architect Mr. Nicholas it was completed by 1909 and opened by the Master of Selwyn College, Dr Murray, on 12 March 1910.

The three gable end windows in the street façade are surmounted with ornamental red brick arches, which contrast with the overall Cambridge gault brickwork. The windows emphasize the triangular aspect of the gable end, one being centrally placed over the main door and the two on the ground floor symmetrically placed on either side of it. Horizontal red brick string courses also serve visually to bind the facade.

2. **Nos 31a and, 32 and 32a Eltisley Avenue (H2).** Early 20th century purpose-built shops with original shop fronts which are still in retail use apart from No. 32 which has been converted into residential apartments. These shop fronts sit in a group of matching houses which continue the character of the buildings on the north-west side of Eltisley Avenue.



Chemist Shop



Newnham Croft Social Club

3. **Newnham Bakery (H3)**, no. 7 Derby Street, forms an integral part of the west side of Derby Street. References to a bakery at the premises at Hope Cottage No.7 Derby Street suggest it goes back to 1861, making it the first shop in Newnham. Before WWII, it was referred to as the 'Bakehouse'. The exterior of the building is almost unchanged over the years, although the brickwork was painted at some stage and the shop window widened by taking in a door on the right that led upstairs. With its original oven and tall chimney, it has continued as a bakery with a variety of owners. It has now also become a popular café.



Newnham Bakery

4. **Gas Lamp opposite no. 104 Grantchester Meadows (H4)**
5. **Stink Pipes on Grantchester Meadows, South Green Road, Fulbrooke Road (H5).** South Newnham has five cast iron stink pipes thought to have been erected around 1860 at the time when stink pipes were introduced in London. Typically, 150mm diameter and 6-8 metres tall, they were tall enough for the wind to disperse straying gases above and away from the noses of the Victorians. Though rather rusty now, they were probably pale green in colour, and have crown style heads and fluted bases.



Stink Pipe Grantchester Meadows

6. **St. Marks Vicarage (H6).** Built in 1889, the 2-storey Vicarage building pre-dates St Mark's Church by 11 years. It is built in white Cambridge stock, which has greyed with time. Its exterior takes inspiration from the Tudor-Jacobean with its mullioned windows, but the façade is asymmetric on either side of the dominant porch. Situated on the Barton Road, the Vicarage with the Church hall is part of the plot in which St. Mark's Church stands.



St Marks Vicarage

7. **Red Bull Pub (H7).** Very popular locally, the pub was probably built as a short terrace of four houses in c1850.

6.2 Listed Buildings (Grade II)

No. 2 and 2A Grantchester Road (LB1) - are a pair of houses designed by Colin Wilson and built in 1963-4 for the architect's own occupation. The upper floor is of white cast-stone blocks and is supported on irregularly spaced square pillars, leading through to a courtyard.

78 Barton Road (Wolfson College) and Entrance Gateway (LB2) - Barton Cottage was built in 1810 by Charles Humfrey and bought by Vivian Fuchs in 1937. Wolfson College bought the house and gardens, which is now known as Fuchs House, from Sir Vivian Fuchs in the 1980s.

No. 26 Millington Road (LB3) was designed by Marshall Sisson and built in 1945/5 in the heyday of the Modernist movement. It is faced in roughcast white stucco and is flat roofed. The porch is a simple upturned L-shape projecting from the house, with the glazed staircase rising behind.



NO 2 GRANTCHESTER ROAD



26 MILLINGTON ROAD

The Newnham War Memorial (LB4) stands in the grounds of St Mark's Church. It records the names of 51 servicemen who died in the First World War and 24 servicemen in the Second World War.

Gas lamps. Ten gas lamps in Millington Road and one in South Green Road (**LB5**), and one gas lamp in Clare Road (**LB6**) were erected by Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company c 1889.

6.3 Buildings of Local Interest (BLIs)

Cambridge City Council maintains a list of Buildings of Local Interest, which although having no statutory protection, have been given greater prominence due to the guidance, which has recently been published in PPS 5, which affects all 'heritage assets' (including BLIs). This provides advice on their preservation and the protection of their setting. The BLIs in the Neighbourhood Area vary in size and detail but nearly all were built as family houses,

Barton Road - Nos 28 and 30 (BL1) - built in 1914 have an Arts and Craft character with roughcast walls and continuous leaded light casement windows under the eaves. **No. 96** is also Arts and Craft in character.



Nos 28 and 30



No. 96

Barton Road - Nos 37, 39 and 41 (BL2) - built in early 20th century this is a Neo-Georgian group of 3 blocks of houses facing a small front garden area with timber sash windows and hipped tile roofs with prominent stacks, dormers and overhanging eaves. All the houses have distinctive front doors.



No.37



No. 39



No. 41

Barton Road - Nos 49 and 51 (BL2) - is an L-shaped, three storey early 19th century property with painted brick, slate tiled roof and distinctive blue painted shutters. It has been converted into a number of houses and apartments.



No. 49 and 51

Maitland House (BL3). A 1930s block of two storeys with stuccoed walls and hipped glazed pantile roofs, curving first floor balconies and original Crittall windows. The horizontal panes give the appearance of an ocean liner with symmetrical patterns and large picture windows flanked

by smaller slit windows. Maitland House is set behind a low wall on the street frontage amidst communal gardens laid mainly to lawn with some mature trees around the perimeter.

St. Mark's Church (BL4) built at the beginning of the 20th century from designs by R. Philip Day, Surveyor to the Archdiocese of Canterbury. It is a local landmark, in the Transitional Early English/Decorated Gothic style, red brick with stone dressings, with an apsidal east end and spirelet on the main ridge.



St. Mark's Church



Maitland House

Holmecroft, 27 Barton Road (BL5)

Owlstone Croft Lodge (BL6) was built around 1880 for Major R Calvert, Chief Constable for the county.



Owlstone Croft Lodge

No 50 Grantchester Road (BL7) - is an example of Arts and Craft.



No. 50 Grantchester Road

The Grove, the Driftway (BL8). Built in c1860 is a two storey Gault brick house, end-on to the street with principal elevations concealed by high Gault brick boundary wall.

Paradise House (BL9) is located on an island in the River Cam, dated to c1780. Built of Gault brick and with shallow pitched, hipped, Welsh slate roof to front range, gabled M-roof to rear wings with “vee” infilled in brick. The whole house is built off the ground on a brick arched plinth because of regular flooding by the river.

Millington Road (BL10)

King's College started the development of Millington Road by leasing land to Fellows of various colleges, not only King's, who built architect designed houses to their own specification. The main building period spanned the first three decades of the 20th Century. The prevailing style is more rustic than town house, although there are one or two examples of Neo-Georgian architecture.

Millington Road - No. 3 is an imposing Victorian-Edwardian building of red brick and symmetrical about a rather grand entrance. It presents three gables ends to the street. The windows are also symmetrical about the recessed porch area. There are oculi on each side on the front door.

Millington Road - No. 6 was built by Edward Vulliamy, a draughtsman and watercolourist who became Honorary Keeper of Pictures at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. His own pictures and collection were hung in the long corridors spanning the full width of the house which also had raised fenestration. Symmetrical and Neo-Georgian in reference, the gambrel roof with dormers sits inside a parapet.



No. 3 Victorian/Edwardian



No. 6 c1914 neo Georgian

Millington Road - Nos. 7 and 9 form a semi-detached pair and was the first professional design by the architect H.C. Hughes. Built in grey-yellow stock, with casement windows and the roofline is finished with a frieze of dentils. The front gardens merge with the street giving a sense of openness.



Nos 7 & No 9

Millington Road - No. 11 Designed by H.C. Hughs, was built for the theologian, Sir Edwin Clement Hoskyns, a Fellow and Dean of Corpus Christi College. It is a fine symmetrical house with a front garden open to the road. **No. 19** was built around 1928 a neo-Georgian style, symmetrical and in white render with sash windows. Well-proportioned with an almost square ground plan and hip roof, it features a Georgian architrave over the front door.



No. 11



No. 19

Millington Road - No. 27 was built for Major-Gen. Harold Hendley, CSI, MD (Durham). The facade was considerably altered in the mid-2010s with a forward extension. **No 32** was built in 1932 and the Irish literary critic, Thomas R. Henn, Fellow and later President of St Catharine's College, first inhabited the house. Built around a half courtyard, the house gives the impression of two houses in one. The design is rural in character with its gambrel roof echoing other houses in the street.



No 27



No. 32

Millington Road - No. 33 was built by Professor Donald Portway, Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Master of St Catherine's College. It is an imposing neo-Georgian house built in yellow stock with sash windows and an imposing front door graced with a pediment. It has a beautiful garden which has retained some of the original old orchard trees which populated this area. **No 35** appears to have been a wedding present to Dr Alice Roughton from a relative in

the Siemens family. Her husband was J.H. Plummer Professor of Colloid Science, University of Cambridge. Elected a fellow of Trinity College. EH, the architect's initials are carved on a stone in the wall of the house. The exterior presents an amalgamation of neo-Georgian with rustication more properly associated with Baroque. It has a hip roof and the slightly projecting central section adds interest.



No 33



No. 3

Millington Road - No 36 was designed by the architect HC Hughes and built in 1926 for the Bishop of Ely, Dr F.A. Chase, in his retirement. Built in grey/white stock, the gothic windows and lych reflects its ecclesiastical association. It is set further back from the road and has a rural 'feel' which makes a fitting transition to the playing fields beyond.



No. 36

Barton Road – No 96 (BL11)

Gonville and Caius Cricket Pavilion (BL12). In 1895 the College appointed the architect W.M. Fawcett to design a cricket pavilion which was completed by 1896. The original architectural elevations and drawings show lavish detailing of the brickwork, ornamental brackets and pillars supporting the veranda structure. Most of these features have been retained in subsequent alterations. The central clock tower and balustrade were later additions.



Gonville & Caius Cricket Pavilion

7.0 POLICY SECTION 7 – ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE AND WELL-DESIGNED DEVELOPMENT IN CHARACTER AREAS, MAP 6

7.1 AREA A - NEWNHAM CROFT (The Croft)

A.1 Character

Newnham Croft (The Croft) was largely developed as artisan housing between the late 19th century and early 20th Century. The Croft has interlinking streets of well-preserved Victorian or Edwardian terraced houses, built at a high density with small front gardens and long thin back gardens accessed by pedestrian paths. The architectural styles and details vary slightly, so each street has its own particular character.

The Croft has a distinct village atmosphere where children walk and cycle to Newnham Croft Primary School and residents shop locally. Shops include a general shop/post office, a small Co-op Supermarket, a bakery, butchers, chemist, garage and arts studio

The Croft is characterised by its open spaces as much as its buildings, with Lammas Land to the North, the River Cam and Paradise Nature Reserve to the east, Grantchester Meadows approaches to the south and St. Catherine's College playing field to the west.

Newnham Croft became a **Conservation Area** on 8 June 1998. In 2013 Cambridge City Council carried out a new survey and assessment of the Conservation Area, based on the original Character Appraisal. The Forum members have conducted street surveys and house character assessments using the 2013 Appraisal.

The Croft provides: -

- housing for approximately 1,200 residents (2011 Census), mostly terrace houses, mostly single-family homeowners but including some rented accommodation, and student housing for Queens College, Darwin College and St. Catherine's College.
- A primary school facility for 230 children, three nursery schools, Lammas Court sheltered housing, Social club and Scouts Hut.
- local shopping facilities.
- recreational facilities including Lammas Land with its tennis courts, paddling pool, bowls club and children's play area, Canoe Club, and College playing fields.
- Nature Reserves
- footpaths through Sheep's Green, Paradise Nature Reserve and towards Grantchester Meadows.
- views across open green spaces and playing fields.

A.2 Residential Streets

Newnham Croft North. Original core of settlement within the Conservation area.

Hardwick Street. This street of terraced houses built with traditional materials dates to the mid to late 19th and early 20th centuries. New blocks of flats for student accommodation were completed in 2017. **Derby Street.** The street is partly lined with mid-19th century two storey

Victorian terraced cottages and buildings dating to the 20th century. **Newnham Croft Street.** This is a connecting ‘back’ street and consists mostly of the backs of buildings and garages. There is a large block of flats owned by Pembroke College and Derby Stores and Post Office. **Merton Street.** The street contains almost continuous Victorian terraced houses dating from the 1870’s. It leads to West View and the modern houses of the Cenacle built in the 1970’s.



Two storey, red and gault brick Edwardian terrace houses in Grantchester Street

Grantchester Street runs through the heart of the Newnham Croft Conservation Area. There are three groups of terraced houses, well preserved, dating to the late 19th or early 20th centuries. **Chedworth Street.** The houses on the north side were built in 1913-1914 in Gault brick with some red brick detailing. Houses on the south side were built in 1992-93 replacing the original Newnham Croft School. The new school at the south-east end of the road opened in 1989. It is a simple modern style with brick and rendered elevations. **Lammas Field.** A development of a former hockey pitch in the 1970’s by the Granta Housing Association. Single storey houses with courtyard gardens.

Newnham Croft South.

Eltisley Avenue runs along the line of a historic footpath which leads to Grantchester Meadows. It is a straight road mostly lacking in trees, apart from the mature Tree of Heaven in no. 33 which has a Tree Preservation Order. **Marlowe Road.** The houses in Marlowe Road were built around 1912 and many of the houses retain their original roof materials, prominent chimney stacks, windows and doors.



Eltisley Avenue



Marlowe Road

Owlstone Road. The houses were all built between 1904 and 1912 mostly laid out in terraces and the unity of their original design has hardly changed.

Grantchester Meadows. Grantchester Meadows runs from Grantchester Street westwards to the beginning of the path over the meadows. The street retains the character of a country lane

with buildings of different sizes, ages and materials, set back at varying distances from the frontage, and often concealed by mature trees and other planting.

South Green Road. This is a private cul-de-sac leading from the western end of Grantchester Meadows. House building started around 1903 and there is a continuous terrace of two storey houses, built from Gault brick with red brick string courses. There are attractive views over St. Catherine's Playing Fields, taking in the mature trees and the cricket pavilion.

A.3 Housing Character Type

At the 2011 census a total of 410 houses were recorded in the Croft. Of these, 262 houses are terraced houses and 74 are detached or semi-detached, built in the late 19th Century and early 20th Century.

A.3.1 Victorian Period Detached and Terraced Houses One 3 Storey Terrace, built in 1874 and a 2-storey terrace built in 1888 in Grantchester Street. There is a two-storey terrace in West view at the end of Merton Street. Facades of Gault brick, slate roofs, ground floor bay windows and two over sash windows. Low stone walls. They have small front gardens and back gardens.

Similar in age to Grantchester Street Victorian houses, No. 107 and 107a in Grantchester Meadows has stone defined canted bay windows.



No. 31 Grantchester St. Detached House



West View Victorian Terrace Houses



No; 103-105 Grantchester Meadows



No. 107-107a Grantchester Meadows

A.3.2 Victorian Period Terraced Cottages. Two storey cottages set along consistent building lines with few gaps in between. Mostly modest cottages with flat fronts, slate roofs and two over two sash windows. Brick facades but mostly now painted. Small plots with no front gardens. Streets lined with parked cars.



Derby Street



Grantchester Street

A.3.3 Edwardian Period/Style Terraced Houses. Two storey terrace houses mostly built between 1904 and 1912 in the interlinking residential roads in the Croft. Medium sized plots with small front gardens with low stone walls, picket fencing and hedging and long back gardens. Set along consistent building lines. Facades of Gault brick, some with red brick dressings, under slate roofs. A few facades have been painted. Two storey front bays with sash windows and recessed front doors. Wide range of stone detailing, including names carved into the sandstone and stone arches over doorways. Details include inset boot scraper and cast-iron coal-chute covers.



South End Green Road



Owlstone Road

A.3.4 1920's Semi-detached brick and render faced houses with pitched red tiled roofs. Medium sized front gardens and large size back gardens.



Semi-detached houses in Grantchester Meadows

A.3.5 Modern Flats and Student Accommodation A recent addition has been the development of student housing by Darwin College, replacing the old ambulance station. Traditional materials

were used, and the height of the buildings were staggered to avoid overshadowing the houses opposite. There is a bicycle shed in the middle of the two properties which avoids bicycles being locked onto the railings and blocking the pavement. The low front wall, with railings, is in keeping with houses in the area.

A modern development of student accommodation by St Catherine's in South End Green reflects the style of the adjoining Edwardian terrace. Owlstone Croft is the highest and biggest single standing building in the Croft, but it is hidden from general view.



Darwin Hall



Owlstone Croft

A.4 Views and Trees.

A.4.1 Views

Character Area A is fortunate to be bordered to the South and West by the Green Corridor extending from Lammas Land to Grantchester Meadows see **MAP 6**. Some examples of these views are: -

- Lammas Land from Grantchester Street and property along the Driftway.
- Newnham Croft Primary School grounds from Chedworth Street
- Woodland from Newnham Croft Primary School
- Paradise Nature Reserve from Queen's College and Owlstone Road
- Paradise Nature Reserve from Grantchester Street
- Paradise Nature Reserve from houses on Grantchester Meadows southside.
- St. Catherine's College playing field from South End Green Road

A.4.2 Trees

Because of the narrowness of these very crowded streets, there is little street planting. In Eltisley Avenue a large Tree of Heaven at one end and a large ash at the other provide focal points and both have TPOS. In Marlowe Road there is another large Ash. There are a number of large trees in the gardens of the houses in Grantchester Meadows.



Tree of Heaven Eltisley Ave.



Ash Tree

Newnham Croft has a green and leafy feel and most streets have views with trees, either in gardens or along the streets. The famous Grantchester Meadows have panoramic views across fields to the River Cam and beyond. A few streets back onto playing fields with views from back gardens.

7.2 AREA B. BARTON ROAD & SURROUNDS

(including Millington Road and St. Marks Close, Champneys Walk and Barton Close)

B.1 Character

Character Area B borders onto Newnham Croft Character Area A in the South and Character Area C around Grantchester Road. Gonville and Caius Playing fields, Newnham and Gough Way Character Area D lie to the North.

Stretching north into Newnham and south to include Millington Road Barton Road became part of the **West Cambridge Conservation Area** in 1972. At the eastern end, land on the north side was developed in the late 19th century at the same time as the land to the north in Newnham, with which it shares many architectural and design characteristics, with large villas in domestic revival style, occupying spacious plots.

Barton Road has a spacious suburban feel, with large architect-designed two and three storey detached and semi-detached houses on both sides, set back behind hedges in long plots with large front gardens. St. Mark's Church and the Red Bull Pub together with the shops in the Croft, form the heart of the South Newnham "village" and the spirelet on the Church is pre-eminent on the skyline. There are a number of Buildings of Local Interest including Maitland House and St. Mark's Church, together with a variety of houses of Local Interest. Wolfson College is set within spacious landscaped grounds.

Barton Road Area provides:

- housing for approximately 991 residents (2011 Census). Predominantly large detached houses, and a close of modern family houses, mostly single-family ownership, some rented accommodation and three blocks of flats.
- undergraduate and post graduate study at Wolfson College, which has around 650 students and is the largest employer in South Newnham.
- a place of worship at St. Mark's Church and community facilities at St. Mark's Community Centre.
- architectural interest with Buildings of Local Interest listed by Cambridge City Council.
- a cycle path protected by grass verges alongside Barton Road linking South Newnham and giving access to the City
- good tree canopy with trees lining Barton Road and many trees in large gardens

B.2 Residential Streets

Barton Road, The Barton Road is one of the principle routes out of Cambridge City Centre to the south west and runs through South Newnham Neighbourhood Area. Heading west, the Road becomes suburban in character with large houses of late 19th and, more commonly, early 20th century date. In the western half of the road, the footpaths are wider, with wide grass verges planted out with now mature trees. Boundaries are typically marked by high hedges or wooden fences, and the houses are set within spacious plots with mature planting and trees.

Millington Road was laid out in 1908 and is characterised by large detached houses in large plots, several of them by the noted interwar Cambridge architect H.C. Hughes and a number are listed as Buildings of Interest, It is also notable as a street with a number of listed gas lamps and which continues to be lit by gaslight. The unpaved footpath and verges give the street an informal village character.

Barton Close was laid out in the 1930 as a cul-de-sac around a central island, which is now maintained in a semi-wild state. Wide footpaths with grass verges skirt the perimeter, and some properties have high beech hedges on the boundary.

St. Marks Court is a post war development of two storey flats of a contrasting density and grain. The complex has some open spaces with trees and benches and there is a path that leads from the back of the estate onto **Champneys Walk**. The main vehicle access to Champneys Walk is off Grange Road and this has become a recognised short cut cycle route, linking Grange and Barton roads. This development was built on ground purchased from Newnham College in the late 1980's and consists of 27 dwellings - 12 terraced and 14 linked or fully detached houses.

Clare Road is a quiet gravel road running alongside Gonville & Caius College playing field. The road ends at two gates, one onto Newnham College sports field and the other to a tree lined path to Summerfield and the A603.



Entrance to City



View along Barton Road

B.3 Housing Character Type

At the 2011 census a total of 246 houses were recorded of which 199 were detached, semi-detached or terraced and the remainder being flats either purpose built or converted. 56% are owner occupied. Area B has a large population of students, most of whom are housed at Wolfson College.

B.3.1 Victorian Period. Two and three storeys detached and semi-detached Victorian houses, built of Gault brick with slate roofs and bay sash windows. Large gardens with mature trees.



No. 26 Barton Road



Claire Road

B.3.2 Arts and Craft Arts and Craft style house, pitched tiled roofs. Rough cast painted render façade. Metal Crittall windows and narrow oriel shaped windows. Curved brick porch surround and wooden front door.



No 28 Barton Road



No. 28 Millington Road

B.3.3 Late Edwardian style. Red brick facades pitched slate roofs, front bays and sash windows. Large detached and semi-detached houses.



No 3 Millington Road



No 71 Barton Road

B.3.4 1920's Mixed Styles. Individual architect-built house designs, with a range of Tudor, Georgian and domestic influences.



No 10 Barton Road -Tudor style



No. 94 Barton Road

B.3.5 1930's Two storey detached houses under pitched slate roofs, brick faced and painted, bay windows. Large front and back gardens.



No 100

B.3.6 1950's Two storey detached houses under slate pantile roofs, brick faced, front bays and distinct Crittall windows. Large front and back gardens.



No. 32

B.3.7 1970's and 1980's. St. Mark's **Court** built in the 1970's, are mostly two storey terrace houses, brick faced, flat roofs, small back gardens. Built in the 1980's, all the properties in Champneys Walk are of similar architectural style, designed and constructed by David Reed Homes, a local builder, and most have distinctive brick and triangular bay windows.



St. Marks Court



Champneys Walk

B.3.8 2017- 2019 Original houses have been demolished and much larger properties, substantially altering the house to plot ratio, have been built.



No 89 Barton Road



No 95 Barton Road

B.4 Views and Trees

B4.1 - Trees

Barton Rd including Barton Close. Verge trees include **hawthorn, cherry, ash, pseudoacacia, horse chestnut, sycamore** and **Wych Elm**. They are widely spaced and could be increased in number. On the garden side of the cycle path, there are occasional trees, including **ash, yew, sorbus, sycamore** and **cypresses**.

St Mark's Court and Champneys Walk. These two areas have unenclosed front gardens, often with small trees and several mature trees. There is no street planting between the houses, but in the small road leading from Champneys Walk to Grange Rd, a collection of about 30 trees of various sizes occupies a strip of 50x3m verge, possibly a small remnant of earlier woodland. It contains coppiced **hazel, ash, birch, holly, sycamore, field maple**, a **conifer** and a small **spindle tree**. There are also 3 well-grown **beech trees** on an island here.

Millington Rd. This generally leafy private road has many trees in front gardens, but no street planting.



Millington Road



Barton Close



Millington Road, wooded lane leading to Millington Nursery

B4.2 - Views

Character Area B has limited views to the West across King's and Selwyn College and Downing College sports grounds and North towards Lammas Land, Gonville and Caius and Newnham College sports grounds. See **Map 6** for examples:-

- Barton Road to Lammas Land
- Clare Road back gardens to Gonville and Caius College playing fields
- Champney's Walk back gardens to Nennham College playing fields
- Fulbrooke Road to Doening College Sports Ground.
- Barton Road towards Kings and Selwyn Colleges Sports Ground

7.3 AREA C: GRANTCHESTER ROAD AND SURROUNDS

C.1 Character

This residential community forms the city's rural edge to the west and south. It borders the countryside and provides easy access to open spaces and ancient fields. It has been 'jealously preserved from development for nearly 100 years, and the area retains a strong identify and coherence' (*Cambridge suburbs and approaches: Barton Road; 2009*). Although within the boundaries of Cambridge city, it has the character of a place open to the sky and the countryside.

The quarter provides: -

1. housing for approximately 341 residents (2011 Census), mostly single-family homeowners but also including rented accommodation, two blocks of flats, Council houses and a language school;
2. considerable sporting and recreational facilities, including several College playing fields, the Cambridge Rugby Club, and access to Cocks & Hens Tennis Club, the Cambridge Model Engineering Society and community allotment gardens;
3. access to quiet walking paths to the ancient Grantchester Field System and the Quarter-to-Six Quadrant (QTSQ);
4. a range of views across playing fields and open countryside;
5. Bolton's Pit, with its fascinating history relating to brick production from the underlying Gault clay for the growing town, and the current lake's rich natural habitat.

C.2 Principal roads, in the order in which they were developed

Selwyn Road provides a fine example of artisan terrace housing from the late 19th century on the south side of the road, built right onto the pavement. These dwellings back onto the Downing College playing fields and enjoy uninterrupted views to the south. On the north side there is a group of three early-twentieth-century terraces built by the Council, some now privately owned. Selwyn Road is a quiet one-way street and a key pedestrian and cycle route.

Fulbrooke Road. A quiet cul-de-sac leading off Grantchester Road with a variety of house styles, including 20th-century terrace houses, 1930s detached dwellings with pebble-dash render, an Arts and Crafts-style house and a 20th-century block of flats at the western end. There is a pleasing sense of coherence despite the variety.



Selwyn Road



Fulbrooke Road

Grantchester Road ('the romantic Long Lane') was formerly a bridleway, footway and private carriage road 20 feet broad from out of the village of Grantchester and extending to Barton Road, as now. Today it is almost entirely a residential road of domestic housing stock in a variety of 19th, 20th- and 21st-century styles. The road runs north-south from the Barton Road intersection with Wolfson College, and is used as an access road to open countryside and a shortcut through the village of Grantchester for commuters and shoppers.

King's Road leads off Barton Road and provides access to Selwyn Road. After the junction with Selwyn Road the road becomes an unadopted lane running alongside Downing College playing fields. There is a terrace of Council houses, new build terrace houses and Ashworth Park flats. 'The Lawns', an interesting Arts & Crafts-style house with a backdrop of mature trees, is followed by two modern houses to the south.



Grantchester Road to open countryside



Kings Road to Mud Lane

C.3 Character house types

At the 2011 census a total of 255 houses were recorded in Area C and of these 143 are detached or semi-detached. 74% of the houses are owner-occupied.

C.3.1 Victorian detached house No. 1 Grantchester Road is a large Victorian house which was converted to a Language School in 1967 has Gault brick, bay windows and red tiled roof, set back from the road on a large plot, with mature trees and shrubs.



No. 1 Grantchester Rd.

C.3.2 Victorian Cottage. This terrace of Victorian Cottages on Selwyn Road dates from 1874. They were built on small plots with no front gardens and back gardens overlooking Downing College playing fields. The two-storey cottages are set along consistent building lines, with few gaps in between.



Selwyn Road, south side.

Gaps between some of the terrace providing access to alleyways at the back



They are modest cottages with brick facades, flat fronts, slate roofs and two-over-two sash windows. There remain a number of original front doors. In recent years many loft extensions have been added.

C.3.3 Edwardian style semi-detached and terraced houses. Mostly built around 1910. Laid out in terraces or semi-detached, on medium-sized plots with very small front gardens and long back gardens. Two storeys, with evidence of roof/loft extensions. Set along consistent building lines. Facades of Gault brick, some locally sourced from Bolton's Pit brickworks, some with red-brick dressings, under slate roofs. A few facades have been painted. Ground-floor front-bay windows with recessed front doors and sash windows on first floor. Low stone walls and hedging in front gardens.



Nos. 38-48 Grantchester Road



Fulbrooke Road



Nos. 32-36 Grantchester Rd



Residents' gardens access from Fulbrooke Road



Brickwork detailing, Fulbrooke Road

C.3.4 Between the Wars: 1920s and 1930s Semi-detached or detached brick, pebbledash render and slate or tiled roofs. No. 50 Grantchester Road (a BLI) is an example of Arts and Craft style, with brick terracotta pantiles on a mansard roof.



No. 4 Grantchester Road



No. 5 Fulbrooke Road



No. 50 Grantchester Road,
Building of Local Interest (BLI) 1928
Architect H.C Hughes

C.3.5 Council-built 20th-century house. Council-built 20th-century terrace houses built along consistent building lines with medium-size front gardens and long back gardens. Some very well maintained. Garages and garden sheds at bottom of back gardens, leading onto the alleyway with access at one end to King's Road. Gault brick, pitched, tiled roofs, flat fronted, two-down and one-up, two-paned windows, wooden front door (many replaced).



Selwyn Road, north side



Back garden, Selwyn Road alleyway

C.3.6 1940s Detached houses on generous plots with garages. Mixture of facades, brick and pebble-dash render. Slate and tile roofs. Front hedges and trees in gardens.



No. 27 Grantchester Rd



No. 31 Grantchester Rd.

C.3.7 Post-War. Nos. 2 and 2A Grantchester Road are Grade II Listed as a unit, in the Modernist style, having originally been the studio/office and home of the architect, Colin St. John Wilson (designer of the British Library in London). No. 19 has no back garden. No. 21 has been built in former back garden of no. 19.



No. 2 Grantchester Road



Nos. 19 and 21 Grantchester Road

There is a variety of detached houses on generous plots. Three-storey /Ashworth Park flats set in well-landscaped gardens.



25A King's Road



Ashworth Court, off King's Road

C.3.8 Contemporary 21st-Century. Original between-the-wars house demolished, and new house built (2019). Style with features referring to neighbouring properties though larger footprint



Grantchester Road



New build in back garden

C.4 Views and Trees

The south west side of Character Area C borders the city and there are a number of playing fields including King's and Selwyn College, the Cambridge Rugby Football Ground and Downing College Sports Ground which provide views across green open spaces. Examples are indicated on **MAP 6** and they include: -

- From Mud Lane to the southwest across Downing College Sports Ground.
- From gardens and alleyways from south side of Selwyn Road across Downing College Sports field.
- From the north-west corner of Downing College Sports field and Grantchester Road, south-eastwards.
- From Grantchester Road south towards Grantchester and across the Rugby Club field.
- From gardens and alleyways from south side of Fulbrooke Road across Rugby Club towards the low hill towards Grantchester (description of 'hill')
- From the western end of Fulbrooke Road across community allotments with woodland backdrop.
- From the Rugby Club pavilion across the field and to the Downing College Sports ground.
- From south end of the gravel lane off Fulbrooke Road to the southwest, across towards the Baulk path.
- From Pillbox Corner to the west and across the Baulk and open fields.
- From Pillbox Corner southwards across the open fields towards Grantchester.

- From the south end of the Rugby Club field north across the field with the backdrop of the south side of Fulbrooke Road.



Cambridge Rugby Club fields



Downing College playing fields

7.4 AREA D - GOUGH WAY ESTATE

D.1 The Character

The Gough Estate is bordered on three sides with green open spaces and the Barton Road to the south. It has a secluded and almost-rural feel, partly because there is only one vehicle access to the estate (from Barton Road).

The estate consists of about 150 detached houses and a small block of flats (Larchfield), built between the mid-1960s and 2018. The houses on the western edge of the estate have views over open country, but this has been under frequent threat from development, so far resisted by South Cambs planners, government inspectors, and the courts. The estate is bordered on the eastern side by Corpus Christi Sports Ground.

Gough Way Estate provides: -

- housing for approximately 332 residents (2011 Census) mostly detached house, mostly sing-family ownership, and a small block of flats
- a tranquil, leafy enclave with no through road for cars
- footpaths alongside all the roads
- a play area for children
- cycle paths to access Barton Road and Cranmer Road
- views over open country and playing fields

D.2 Residential Roads

Gough Way is the main spine road winding through the estate, feeding several short side roads, all of which have grass verges and are lined with trees (originally planted with money subscribed by residents). The curves on the main spine road add character to the estate and help to slow most of the vehicle traffic.



Curved roads



Trees and grass verges

Two lanes provide additional exits from the estate for pedestrians and cyclists, one to Barton Road and the other to Cranmer Road.

D.3 Housing Character type

The houses were mostly built mid 1960's to 1970's with additions going up to 2018. There are about 130 detached houses, one bungalow and a block of 12 flats. Some 85% of the house's

owner occupied. All but 4 of the houses are 2-storey. 4 houses and the flats are 3-storey. Many of the houses have extensions, a few of them quite major. There are very few loft extensions or solar panels.

The houses have many different styles, but all the houses and flats have pitched roofs.

All the houses have garages, either single or double, though few now are used for cars.

The building lines are mostly staggered. All the houses have fair-sized front and back gardens with many bushes and trees, but many front gardens are partially paved. Many of the low boundary fences have disappeared, many replaced with a variety of hedges.



Larchfield Block of Flats



Two extensions are particularly excessive in extent, together with one extremely large house built in 2018 in what was previously, the largest back garden.

D.4 Views and Trees

The Gough Way Estate is surrounded by green open spaces on three sides – **MAP 6**. There are also two large grass areas on the spine road, with trees, and there is a valued large grassed children's play area edged by trees and bushes.

- From Gough Way towards Corpus Christi College Sports Ground and the Bin Brook on its north west border.
- From Gough Way across open fields to the North and West

- Along the North-South spine road to the central grass islands.



View over Green Belt



Children's Play Area

D.5 The Bin Brook

The Bin Brook flows alongside the lanes and crosses between them in a culvert whose size has twice proved inadequate: it flooded a dozen houses in 1978 and again in 2001. A relief channel was dug along the western edge of the estate after the first flood but proved completely inadequate the second time. Residents then spent 6 years discussing with the Environment Agency the provision of an upstream balancing pond. After the Agency had spent some £200k on a study, it was judged by its National Review Group, not to represent good value for money, and eventually the Agency provided flood barriers to the most vulnerable houses. There is an annual meeting between residents, the City Council and the Agency, to ensure that the Brook and its surrounding vegetation are well maintained.

Appendix 1 Sheep's Green, Coe Fen and the New Bit (extracts)

The site is common land. Sheep's Green and Coe Fen lie in Conservation Area No 1. In addition, Sheep's Green and Coe Fen are designated County Wildlife Sites and New Bit a City Wildlife Site. Sheep's Green and Coe Fen qualify as County Wildlife Sites for pollard willows and because they support a population of a vascular plant species which is rare in the county. The area of Vicar's Brook, New Bit and Coe Fen is a City Wildlife Site because it is a chalk stream with adjacent semi-natural habitat. Cambridge City Council intend to declare the site as a local Nature Reserve, under the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside, in 2012, to meet the objectives set out in the adopted Nature Conservation Strategy (2006).

A1.1 Plants

Sheep's Green: damp neutral grassland indicator species: **Cuckooflower** *Cardamine pratensis* is occasional in the wetter areas, particularly in the damp channel to the north of Fen Causeway; **Marsh Ragwort** *Senecio aquaticus* is occasional in the wetter areas. In the woodland species such as **Giant Fescue** *Festuca gigantea* and **Lords-and-Ladies** *Arum maculatum* are present.

Coe Fen: damp neutral grassland indicator species: **Marsh-marigold** *Caltha palustris*, **Cuckooflower**, **Marsh Ragwort**, *Senecio aquaticus*, and **Hairy Sedge** *Carex hirta*. Just south of Fen Causeway is a small patch of **Strawberry Clover** *Trifolium fragiferum*. **Wild Clary** *Salvia verbenaca* is frequent in the drier area to the north of the site.

New Bit: grasses such as **Cock's-foot** *Dactylis glomerata* and **False Oat-grass** *Arrhenatherum elatius* and typical wildflowers such as **Meadow Buttercup** *Ranunculus acris* are common. Grassland indicator species are few and rare, including **Yellow Oat-grass** *Trisetum flavescens* and **Common Bird's-foot-trefoil** *Lotus corniculatus*.

Waterways. The site supports a population of a vascular plant species, **Water Whorl-grass** *Catobrosso aquatica*, which is rare in the county. Whorl-grass has been recorded on the site eight times in the 20th Century, and twice on adjoining City Wildlife Sites. The last record from Coe Fen was in 1987, south of the Leys School, and from Sheep's Green in 2005 in the sluice stream, south of Fen Causeway.

Riparian vegetation in the channels varies by the amount of shading present and includes **Fool's Water-cress** *Apium nodiflorum*, **Stream Water-crowfoot** *Ranunculus penicillatus*, **Water-starwort** *Callitriche stagnalis*, **Shining Pondweed** *Potamogeton lucens*, **Perfoliate Pondweed** *Potamogeton perfoliotus*, **Yellow Water-lily** *Nuphar lutea*, **Reed Sweet-grass** *Glyceria maxima*, **Greater Pond-sedge** *Carex riparia*, **Lesser Pond-sedge** *Carex acutiformis*, **Pink Water-speedwell** *Veronica catenata* and **Brooklime** *Veronica beccabunga*.

A full list with locations is published in the Cambridge Natural History Society survey report in Nature in Cambridgeshire, No. 48, with additional ad hoc records from the July 2010 Bioblitz.

A1.2 Invertebrates

Dead wood provides excellent habitat for a range of species. The area is famous for visits by Charles Darwin to study beetles. No survey had been undertaken for twenty years, before the bioblitz of 2010.

However, during the July 2010 bioblitz, the BAP priority species **Ribautodelphax imitans** was discovered on Coe Fen. It had been previously recorded from only 4 sites in the United Kingdom

and Coe Fen was a new site. In 2011, a detailed study of the distribution of the species was undertaken by Alvin Helden et al (published as *'The status and distribution of Rinautodelphax imitans at Coe Fen, Cambridge, with details of the wider Auchenorrhyncha community'*)

A1.3 Birds

Habitat generalists and water specialists include: **Kingfisher, Moorhen** and **Grey Heron**. A pair of **Kestrels** nested on Coe Fen (2012). The area is visited by wintering birds, including **Little Egret, Goldcrest** and **Redwing**.

A1.4 Mammals

Coe Fen: A family of Water Voles were recorded in the central drain in 1995 and there is one record of a sighting on the banks of the Cam opposite Coe Fen in 2006.

Canoe club members report seeing **Mink** and **Otter** on the site in 2008. Several species of **bat** have been recorded feeding over the grasslands or along the waterways including **Daubenton/s, Pipistrelle, Soprano Pipistrelle** and **Noctule bats**. Some of these may have summer breeding roosts or wintering hibernation roosts in the old trees on the site and in old buildings around the site.

A1.5 Reptiles and Amphibians

Grass Snakes have been seen recently. A large female specimen was found dead in autumn 2009 and they were recorded during the July 2010 bioblitz, along with **Common Frog** and **Common Toad**.

Appendix 2 – Skaters’ Meadow Ecology Report

- A2.1 The vegetation contains a curious mix of species that are typical of permanent or near permanent shallow water, such as **Horsetail** (*Equisetum fluviatile*), together with species that cannot survive prolonged submergence, such as the **Early Marsh Orchid** (*Dactylorhiza incarnata*). The key to understanding this is the unusual history of the site, i.e. its former use as a skating pond. The site must then have been covered with shallow water for perhaps half of the year. It would presumably then have been drained for the summer to allow grazing or hay making to prevent development of rank swamp vegetation that would have made skating impossible. This must have created ideal conditions for the **Horsetail** (*Equisetum fluviatile*) swamp community, presumably with **Spikerush** (*Eleocharis palustris*) swamp in shallower areas and perhaps a range of fen communities around the margins.
- A2.2 With the onset of the Second World War, skating on the site came to an end. Regular prolonged flooding of the meadow is likely to have stopped at the same time, resulting in drier conditions. As a result, the vegetation is now intermediate between swamp and wet meadow.
- A2.3 Once it is well established, *Equisetum fluviatile* persists for a long time even if the conditions for it deteriorate. This explains why it is dominant in a vegetation that otherwise has many of the characteristics of occasionally flooded wet meadows. Only the very lowest parts of the site can still be considered true swamp, and even then, only very small areas of such vegetation persist. Interesting species that are restricted to these damper spots (primarily in the ditch) include **Fen Bedstraw** (*Galium uliginosum*) and **Tubular water-dropwort** (*Oenanthe fistulosa*).
- A2.4 Contrastingly, species that cannot survive prolonged inundation for long periods, and must once have been restricted to the rising ground at the northern end of the site, grow alongside the *Equisetum* in all areas except for these few damper spots.
- A2.5 The current water and grazing management of the site would be expected eventually to produce an inundation grassland community such as the *Agrostis stolonifera* - *Alopecurus geniculatus* grassland. The site is already transitional to such a community. Increased inundation would maintain the swamp community at the expense of some of the species requiring dryer soils such as *Dactylorhiza incarnata*, although it is likely that they would survive on the northern margin of the site.

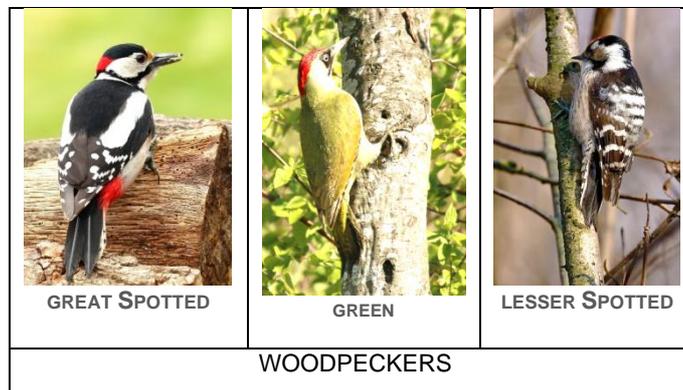
Appendix 3- Ecology and wildlife of Bolton's Pit (Barton Road Lake/Pool)

(Contributed by Dr James Cadbury (At 93 Barton Road (which abuts the lake) for 45 years).

Within the City boundary and less than one and a half km from its busy centre, Bolton's Pit is a remarkably rich haven for wildlife.

A3.1 Birds

Woodpeckers - Both **Great Spotted** and **Green Woodpeckers** have bred successfully in Croftgates' woodland strip in recent years. **Great Spotted**s can be heard drumming in spring. There seem to be two **Green Woodpecker** territories in the vicinity of Bolton's Pit. This species roosts in a hole in a large willow at the northwest corner of the lake. **Lesser Spotted Woodpeckers** were frequent visitors in the 1970's and indeed were more in evidence than their large relations. Sadly, they no longer occur following a massive regional and national decline.



A3.2 Breeding Waterfowl

Mute Swan: has nested on the reed island for several years, the most recent being 2015.
Mallard: 8-10 males on the lake in spring indicates females nesting in surrounding gardens. Broods of ducklings appear but soon disappear, probably as the result of being eaten by **Pike**.
Great Crested Grebe: a pair have nested on the island and reared young in recent years.
Coot: (2 pairs) and **Moorhen:** (3-4 pairs). **Little Grebe:** have attempted to establish a territory on the lake most springs but there is no evidence of successful nesting. **Mandarin Duck:** until 6 years ago up to 7 birds moulted on the lake and a pair have been present on occasion in spring, possibly considering nesting in a tree hole. **Greylag and Canada Geese:** regularly roost on the lake. 9 other duck species have been recorded over the last 40 years especially in winter. **Water Rails** occur most winters.

A3.3 Fish Eating Species.

Grey Herons are regular visitors, probably from the Owlstone colony (Pemberton Estate). **Bittern** (once), **Night Heron** (an adult and an immature). One **Cormorant** has made a number of visits in winter. **Common Terns**, probably from a small colony on Trumpington Country Park, have become frequent visitors between May and August. **Kingfishers** are frequently seen. A pair must breed locally since fledged young visit the lake. Other Breeding Birds associated with the lake are 3-4 pairs of **Reed Warblers**, which have bred successfully in the reed beds. **Singing Sedge Warblers** and **Reed Buntings** occur but none breed.

A3.4 Bats

Common and Soprano Pipistrelles, Natterers, Serotine and in the past **Noctule** make use of the aerial space above the lake to feed.

A3.5 Other Mammals

Both **Fox** and **Mountjac Deer** are frequent visitors to the gardens, particularly 93 Barton Road. **Badgers** have spread into Cambridge and their digging for earthworms and bulbs have been noticed in 93's garden. Both **Wood** and **Yellow-necked Mice** occur.

A3.6 Fish

A large **Roach** population inhabits the lake; most are small (less than 120mm length). There are some large **Tench**. The **Pike** are probably responsible for predating ducklings and young **Coots**. There is only occasional angling.



A3.7 Invertebrates

Dragonflies: Thirteen species have been recorded around the lake and most probably breed in the vicinity. **Brown, Southern and Migrant Hawkers** together with **Emperor** are frequent as adults. **Red-eyed Damselflies**, which rest on Water-lily leaves, are plentiful. **Banded Damoiselle** occurs but probably does not breed.

A3.8 Water-bugs:

Common Pond Skater *Gerris Lacustris* and the **Backswimmer** *Notonecta glauca* are abundant. More notable are the **Water Stick-insect** *Ranatra linearis*, **Water Scorpion** *Nepo cinerea* and **Water Measurer** *Hydrometra stagnorum*. **Great Pond-snail:** *Limnaea stagnates* can be plentiful in the inlets.

A3.9 Butterflies **Brimstone, Orange-tip**, the three common **Vanessids (Peacock, Red Admiral, Small Tortoiseshell)**, **Holly Blue** (two generations) and in recent years, **Speckled Wood**, are all plentiful in the gardens though not directly associated with the lake.



A3.10 Moths,

Mercury vapour traps (emitting ultra-violet light) have been operated in the garden of 93 Barton

Road for many years. A considerable list of species is represented. **Privet, Eyed, Poplar** and **Elephant Hawkmoths** are all frequent. **Scarce** and **Dingy Footman** can be plentiful. **Wainscots** associated with wetlands: **Large, Bulrush, Obscure** (nationally local) and **Brown-veined** have been caught regularly. The larvae of the latter may cause extreme dieback of the upper Reed shoots on which they feed internally.



A3.11 Other Insects

The burnished green **Musk Beetle**, a longhorn, has occurred around the willows in the north-west corner of the lake. One of the first Cambridgeshire records of the spectacularly large and wasp-like **Hoverfly** *Volucella zonaria* occurred in the garden of 93 Barton Road. The **Tree Bumblebee**, *Bombus hypnorum* that has only recently colonised Britain is now plentiful on cotoneaster flowers in surrounding gardens

Appendix 4 - Hedgerows

A4.1 Planning Permission:

The removal of a hedgerow is unlikely to require planning permission, but if removal is proposed as part of a planning application then its impact on the heritage significance of the area and its impact on the setting of any heritage assets around may be taken into account in accordance with planning policies in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (1) and the local development plan.

Aside from the planning system, hedgerows are offered some protection under The Hedgerow Regulations 1997 (2). This complex mechanism offers some protection for hedgerows of more than 20 metres in length or which join other hedgerows **provided** they adjoin agricultural land, forestry, paddocks, common land, village greens, a site of special scientific interest or a local nature reserve.

In order to remove such a hedgerow an owner must serve notice on the local planning authority who then decides if it is 'important' and if so, it is whether it should be retained. If the owner is notified that it is not important or hears nothing within six weeks after the notice is served, then they may remove the hedgerow. If no notice is served or if a notice is issued by the local planning authority requiring the hedgerow's retention, then removal of the hedgerow is a criminal offence.

A hedgerow is 'important' if it has existed for 30 years or more and it meets one of the criteria set out in the Regulations, which include:

- It marks a boundary between parishes existing before 1850;
- It marks an archaeological feature of a site that is a scheduled monument or noted on the Historic Environment Record;
- It marks the boundary of a pre-1600 estate or manor or a field system pre-dating the Enclosure Acts.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/hpg/consent/hedgerowregs/>

Appendix 5 - Cambridge City Council Citywide Tree Strategy 2016-2026

5.1 Tree Canopy

The canopy cover in the City averaged 17%, ranging from 12% in Cherry Hinton ward to 22% in Newnham ward. Medium density residential land use had the greatest proportion of trees with canopies of under 5m.

Table 2. Proportion of total number of trees, canopy cover and land area in Cambridge, by ward

Ward	Number of trees (%)	Canopy cover (%)	Land area (%)
Abbey	9.1	7.3	9.7
Arbury	4.6	3.7	3.7
Castle	7.8	10.1	8.4
Cherry Hinton	9.8	6.8	9.0
Coleridge	5.1	4.0	4.8
East Chesterton	9.3	6.3	6.4
King's Hedges	4.9	3.8	3.9
Market	2.2	3.6	4.2
Newnham	10.0	14.4	10.9
Petersfield	2.8	2.5	2.6
Queen Edith's	12.1	11.6	11.1
Romsey	4.2	3.2	3.6
Trumpington	12.2	18.8	18.0
West Chesterton	5.9	3.9	3.8

Castle, Newnham, Market and Trumpington wards had the highest proportions of taller trees. It has been suggested that a good age distribution for population stability would be about 40% trees under 20cm diameter, 30% 20 to 40cm trees in the early functional stage, 20% 40 to 60cm functionally mature trees, and 10% older trees with most of their functional life behind them.

Table 7. The percentage of total canopy cover, by ward, which falls within protected areas (private conservation areas and TPO areas) and which belong to trees with individual TPO status

Ward	% of canopy cover in conservation areas (privately owned)	% of canopy cover in TPO areas	% of canopy cover that is associated with individual TPOs
Abbey	2.2	0.3	5.4
Arbury	2.6	2.1	3.6
Castle	50.3	3.2	10.4
Cherry Hinton	0.0	1.9	3.1
Coleridge	0.0	0.9	2.1
East Chesterton	6.5	3.8	5.7
King's Hedges	0.0	1.8	2.4
Market	60.5	0.2	7.0
Newnham	52.5	3.1	11.4
Petersfield	70.0	4.6	30.4
Queen Edith's	0.0	9.8	21.2
Romsey	19.8	0.5	11.1
Trumpington	37.1	9.6	6.7
West Chesterton	13.9	0.3	6.2
Total area	25.4	4.4	9.3

A5.2 Tree Density

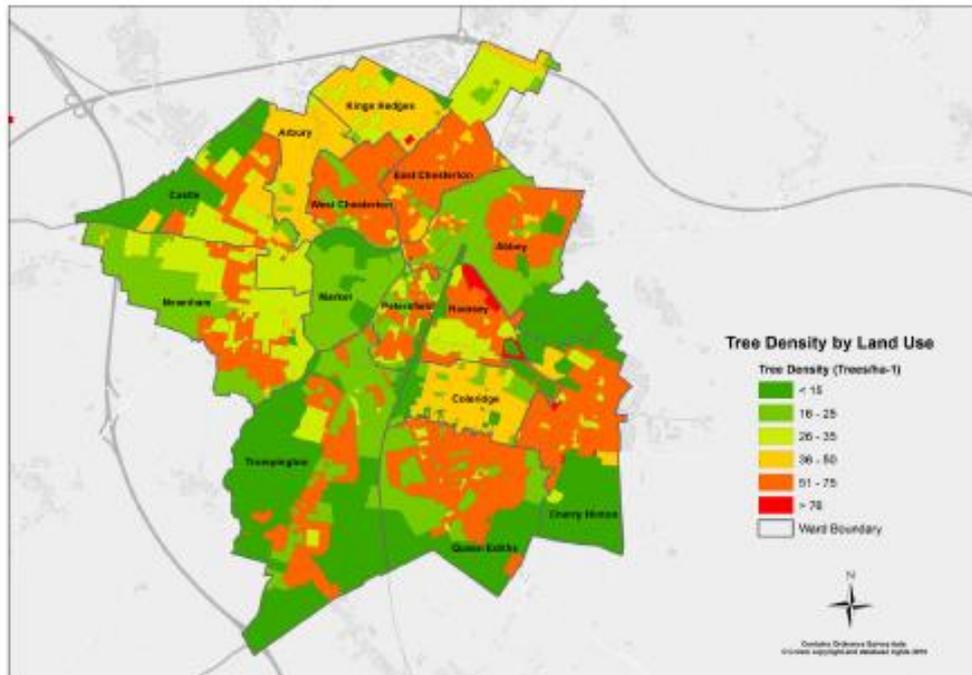


Figure 9. Tree density by ward and land-use in Cambridge City

A5.3 Gough Way Estate: -

There are two grass areas on the spine road, with trees, and there is a valued large grassed children's play area edged by trees and bushes. An agreement dated 21 September 1961 between Corpus Christi College, the original landowner, and the City Council provided that "an area of half-an-acre in an agreed position shall be reserved for a Children's Playground and such area shall be conveyed to the City Council free of cost the Council thereafter undertaking the maintenance of the Playground" This area, together with the two green islands, should be designated local Green Spaces within the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Estate was flooded in 1978 and 2001-remedial works done to prevent future floods.

Old maps (1945) show hedgerows along the Bin Brook on the east side of the estate and along its northern and southern boundaries. (There was no hedge on the western boundary in 1945.) Survey of these hedges (2018) confirmed that the E and S boundaries still exist, but are unmanaged, with gaps and mature trees (**Ash, Horse Chestnut, Willow, Oak** and some very large **Hawthorn trees**). There is an understory of **Dog Rose, Privet, Hawthorn, Prunus** and **Elder**, suggesting a long history of hedges which basically follow the brook and its tributaries. The northern boundary of the estate, however, was probably re-planted at the time the houses were built, as it is mainly **Hawthorn**, with very few invading native species. This is in the line of an earlier hedge and runs along a drainage channel.

As part of the development, land within the estate was set aside for a children's playground and

this has mature **Willow and Horse Chestnut**, also some very large **Elder** trees. No woodland existed here in 1945. The woodland strip beyond the estate is later than 1945 and probably planted in the 1960/70s.

Appendix 6 - Newnham Street Trees Survey

Surveyed in 2018 by U3AC Naturalists Group. Street **trees** are defined as those growing outside private gardens, alongside the highway.

A6.1 Barton Rd including Barton Close

Between the city boundary and the traffic light junction with Newnham Rd, there is a wide verge on the north side, with cycle path, grass and tree planting. Verge trees include **Hawthorn, Cherry, Ash, Pseudoacacia, Horse Chestnut, Sycamore** and **Wych Elm**. They are widely spaced and could be increased in number. These street trees may be in danger if it is decided to widen Barton Road in order to increase the flow of traffic into an already congested city. (N.B. The city arborist has no control over highway trees.) On the garden side of the cycle path, there are occasional trees, including **Ash, Yew, Sorbus, Sycamore** and **Cupressus**. On the south side of the road, there is only room for a pavement and there are no street trees.

A6.2 Barton Close has an island of trees and shrubs, though no other street planting.

A6.3 Newnham Road. On the west side, there are several medium to large **Lime** trees between the end of Church Rate Walk and the lights. Like the trees on the north side of Barton Rd, these would be at risk if road widening was planned. There is also an impressive **Beech** hedge which extends into Barton Rd, surrounding the Caius sports ground. On the east side, Lammas land trees skirt the pavement: a large **Pseudoacacia** near the traffic lights, then a mixture of **Pseudoacacia** and **Lime**, with some smaller shrubs.

A6.4 St Mark's Court and Champneys Walk These two areas have unenclosed front gardens, often with small trees and a number of mature trees. There is no street planting between the houses, but in the small road leading from Champneys Walk to Grange Rd, a collection of about 30 trees of various sizes occupies a strip of 50x3m verge, possibly a small remnant of earlier woodland? It contains coppiced **Hazel, Ash, Birch, Holly, Sycamore, Field Maple**, a **Conifer** and a small **Spindle tree**. There are also three well-grown Beech trees on an island here.

A6.5 Gough Way and side roads. This development retained many of its original trees and has wide roads with verges of grass with a good number of street trees. While it would be possible to plant more, this area is, on the whole, well provided.

A6.6 Grantchester Road. Between Barton Rd and Fulbrooke Road, both sides of the street have trees planted in the verges. On the west, these include **Sycamore, Birch, Horse Chestnut, Cherry, Lime** and several non-native species. On the east, there is a similar mixture, also including a large **Sweet Chestnut** and a **Sorbus**.

A6.7 Fulbrooke Road and Kings Road. At the junction of Kings Rd and Grantchester Rd, there is an attractive island separating motor traffic from on-coming cycle traffic and this is planted with low herbaceous plants. This example could be followed elsewhere. Otherwise, there is no street planting here.

A6.8 Millington Road This generally leafy private road has many trees in front gardens, but no street planting.

A6.9 Newnham Croft Streets. Because of the narrowness of these very crowded streets, there is little street planting. There are occasional shrubs such as **Pyracantha** and in **Hardwick St**, a **Pear tree** is planted against the house. Near the post box, in **Grantchester St**. is a medium sized non-native tree. In **Eltisley Ave**, a large **Tree of Heaven** at one end and a large **Ash** at the other provide focal points and both have TPOs. In **Marlowe Rd**, there is another large Ash. Throughout these streets, short double yellow lines have been placed to protect the Fire services access to water. They were introduced following an arson attack on the GP Motor building at the end of **Eltisley Ave**, when water had to be obtained from a considerable distance because of a parked car. A physical barrier to parking, combining kerb and a tree would both enhance the streets and protect this vital function.

A6.10 Summary and Recommendations

The wider streets and main road are reasonably well provided with street trees. They also have bigger gardens and many garden trees. Future planning decisions may threaten the trees in the main roads. In the case of **Newnham Croft** and **Kings Rd/ Fulbrooke Rd**, there is considerable scope to increase street tree provision. In particular, small islands to protect fire hydrant water points could contain trees or other planting.

1. Be prepared to defend the street trees of Barton Rd and Newnham Rd against plans for road widening.
2. Introduce small islands with a tree at the sites of the short double yellow lines, to physically prevent parking and protect the fire service's access to water.
3. Ensure that all new building includes some tree planting.
4. Consider sponsorship of tree planting (given that we are a relatively well-off neighbourhood and city council funds will be limited).
5. Plant more street trees as part of the "Green Flag" initiative to increase Biodiversity.

Appendix 7 - Newnham Croft Primary School Surveyed on 15th June 2018

A7.1 Scope.

The main objective was to assess the boundaries of the grounds, as many of Newnham's ancient field boundaries still exist. It is also the site of an earlier orchard, some of which remains.

Part of the grounds are allocated to the Scout Hut, and this small area contains the remnants of the ancient orchard. Otherwise, there are open areas, trees, a vegetable garden and 'grand arcade' of a polytunnel, tennis courts and playground equipment. Wildflower areas have been left un-mown.

A7.2 Findings

1. Hedge between Scout Hut and nearest house is thick, but not old. It consists of **Hawthorn**, **Snowberry**, other garden shrubs.
2. Two very old **Apple trees** are all that survive of the original orchard. One is becoming hollow and is thought possibly dangerous. It may need attention, removal of one branch and thinning. The other (not inspected closely) appeared in good health and both are still very productive.
3. Hedge on left of playing fields (N side, adjoining The Grove field) is unmanaged, has mature **Ash** and **Horse Chestnut**, with understory of shrubs and looks undisturbed. Hooper's Rule* assessment gives a total of 13 native woody species, with an average of 5.5 species in each 30-yard stretch, indicating an estimated age of 500-600 years. (This is in spite of a section obscured by sheds in the middle.)

Native Species	Introduced Species
Horse chestnut	Lilac
Holly	
Elder-	
Prunus	
Hawthorn	
Large Leaved Elm	
Sycamore	
Ash	
Small Leaved Elm	
Privet	
Holm Oak	
Beech	
Rose	

4. Hedge on right of field, between the school and Queen's hostel grounds, is also unmanaged. It consists mainly of a row of mature **Lime** trees and introduced **Laurel**. However, the understory includes a further 12 species of native woody species, an average of 5.8/30 yds, so also an estimated age of 500-600 years. The **Field Maple**, **Spindle** and two **Viburnum** species are of particular interest, indicating original native hedgerow flora.

Native Species	Introduced Species
----------------	--------------------

Elder	Laurel
Prunus	
Hawthorn	
Ash	
Privet	
Beech	
Rose	
Lime	
Spindle	
Hazel	
Field Maple	
Wayfaring tree (<i>Viburnum lantana</i>)	
Guelder rose (<i>V. Opulus</i>)	

The two hedges between them contain 19 native woody species - a spectacular tally

5. Woodland area

There is an extensive area of wilderness at the end of the more formal grounds. Shrubs, nettles and a pond provide a "forest school" teaching opportunity. Small birds have nesting space in the absence of dogs (unlike the Paradise reserve the other side of the fence). **Hedgehogs** and **Frogs** have been seen here. There are some spaces for hedgehogs to cross under fences.

6. The central part of the grounds has many trees, including an old ***Prunus padus***, next to the old **Crab Apple** by the sand pit. There are areas of corn and hay meadows, to attract insects. A **Toad** was recently seen in some damp hay.

A7.3 Summary

The ancient apple trees are a valuable habitat for beetles and other invertebrates. The boundary hedges have probably been undisturbed for at least 500 years and retain much of their original flora. The wilderness area is undisturbed woodland and its pond provides habitat for amphibians and aquatic insects. As a habitat for **hedgehogs**, it is ideal, in that it excludes **badgers** but allows foraging **hogs** to come and go. The grounds as a whole accommodate both the pupils and also a great deal of space for wildlife, with a curriculum which introduces the children to the joys of nature.

*Hoopers Rule is based on the fact that the longer a hedge has been undisturbed, the more chance there is of new species arriving and becoming incorporated. It states that "The average number of native woody species in a 30-yard stretch of hedge is equivalent to the number of centuries the hedge has been there, plus or minus 100 yrs".

A7.4 Recommendations

The apple trees should be preserved if at all possible and not removed simply because they are old. Ancient fruit trees provide valuable habitat for invertebrates and these are still very productive.

The hedges should perhaps be discussed with the neighbouring properties and protected. Management should be restricted to trimming back where necessary and perhaps removing some of the laurel to encourage the native flora on the south side.

Hedgehog holes should be provided at regular intervals around the site, as the grounds are an ideal habitat, excluding dogs and badgers.

Appendix 8 – Notable Wildlife

A8.1 Plants

Butterbur, nettles, willows

A8.2 Fungi

Blewits, chicken-of-the-wood, puffballs, boletus, various brackets, stinking parasol, honey fungus, field and horse mushrooms

A8.3 Mammals

Muntjac, moles, squirrels, mice, voles, shrews, bats, badgers, hedgehogs, otters, water voles, foxes, domestic cats and dogs.

A8.4 Birds

Herons, rooks, starlings, sparrows, swifts, siskins, fieldfare, redwing, lapwing, buzzards, cuckoo, treecreeper, kingfisher, geese, ducks, swans, crows, jackdaws, snipe, tawny owl, barn owl.

A8.5 Reptiles and Amphibians

Grass snakes, slow worms, newts, toads, frogs.

A8.6 Invertebrates

Wasps, hornets, bees, dung flies, ladybirds, chafers, butterflies, spiders, harvestmen. Red data book Diptera, Musk Beetles, Tall Fescue Planthopper.

A8.7 Fish in the Cam

In Sept 2017, the City Council and Environmental Agency carried out electro-fishing of the newly regenerated brook -the Rush -which runs between the main river and the Newnham millpond across Sheep's Green and under Fen Causeway. What had been a sluggish and overgrown stream is now running freely through a narrower channel and a fish gate has been installed at the top. In the brook, electro-fishing produced a total number of 203 small fish. Most common were **Dace**, **Gudgeon** (bottom feeders) and **Perch**, with smaller numbers of **Minnow**, **Roach**, **Chub** and occasional **Stickleback**, **Pike** and **Eel**. They ranged in size from 4--15cm (2~7in). In the process, a largish **eel** had also been spotted, but not caught. (Pike up to 17lb in weight have been caught in the main river).



Appendix 9 - Potential Newnham Wildlife Initiatives to Increase Biodiversity

A9.1 Communications

- Communication to community about local wildlife, e.g. via Friends of Paradise
- Community involvement in any planning decisions which might affect open spaces

A9.2 Provide

- More tree planting, especially street planting and in larger spaces like sports grounds
- More allotments, community as well as individual (as at Empty Common)
- Community orchard and apple press (as Trumpington)
- Community herb garden
- Community woodland, extend woodland generally
- Local free-cycling depot, including for timber

A9.3 Policies

- TPOs and hedgerow protection
- Reduce hedge trimming by colleges
- Less pesticide use - alternatives

A9.4 Actions

- Improve Biodiversity in the Green Corridor
- Butterfly and bee pathways, seed for flowers
- Hedgehog pathways and gaps in fences, re-homing, winter hibernation boxes
- Swift and Sparrow boxes
- Other bird boxes
- Regular rubbish pick-up, Paradise, the Triangle, Grantchester Meadows
- Pennywort clearance on Cam (completed in 2019, but on-going vigilance needed)

CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION STRATEGY OCTOBER 2011	GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK - PARKS & LOCAL GREEN SPACES									
	GC1 Sheep's Gr, Snob's Brook & the Rush	GC2 Lammam Land	GC3 Paradise Nature Reserve	GC4 Skaters' Meadow Group	LPG1 The Grove	LPG2 Owlstone Croft	LPG3 Wolfson College	CCC LOCAL PLAN 2018 DESIGNATIONS SCHEDULE - PROTECTED OPEN SPACES		
CRITERIA	CWS11, NAT06	P&G11	LNR 09, CWS10, NAT05	CWS 13	NAT35					
NOTE: These open spaces are listed in Cambridge City Council Local Plan 2018 Appendix C, Designations Schedule which details the protected open spaces within the Cambridge City boundary. This schedule is updated by Historic England.										
ENVIRONMENTAL importance										
b. Character of Local Area										
i Streams, trees, hedgerows or meadowlands	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ii is it a important green break	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
iii does it form part of a network of open spaces in local area	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
iv is it enjoyed visually on a daily basis from public places (e.g. footpaths)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
v does it have local historical or cultural interest	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
c. Does the site contribute to the wildlife value and biodiversity of the City										
i Does it have any nature conservation designation	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ii Is it adjacent to or an important link to sites with nature conservation designation?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Does it contain important habitats or species sufficient to make it worth of consideration for any nature conservation designation?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
iii nature conservation designation?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
iv Is it an important wildlife oasis in an area with limited wildlife value?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
RECREATIONAL importance										
d. Does the site make a major contribution to the recreational resources of the City as a whole?										
i Is it of a size, quality and accessibility such that people would travel to use it for recreational purposes, no matter where they live, work or study in the City?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ii Is it an important part of the network of significant recreational open spaces?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
iii Is it part of the sports provision which helps to meet demand from people throughout the City, no matter where they live, work or study?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
e. Does the site make a major contribution to the recreational resources of the local area?										
i Is it of a size and accessibility such that people who live, work or study in the local area do or could use it for recreational purposes?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
ii Is it an important part of the network and hierarchy of recreational facilities in the local area?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
iii Is it a significant linkage between recreational areas?	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

TABLE 2 - CRITERIA FOR PARKS & LOCAL GREEN SPACES